FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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LD081310 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Iran and Kuwait — Tehran radio viewed Kuwait's decision to expel five Iranian diplomats as a "grave mistake" that will benefit Iraq, adding that such "miscalculated" measures will result in Kuwait falling into Iraq's hands where it will "burn with Saddam." However, Kuwait could have been free of Iraqi influence and "immune" from the fire of the war if it had taken steps to consolidate its relations with Iran, the radio maintained.

The Kuwaiti order giving five Iranians a week from 5 September to leave the country followed a missile attack on Kuwait the previous day which Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad attributed to Iran, according to KUNA. The agency cited messages by Shaykh Sabah to the United Nations and the Arab League in which he said a Chinese-made Silkworm missile had damaged buildings and installations in southern Kuwait. Furthermore, he stressed that Iran committed other attacks on Kuwaiti territory in recent days which Kuwait did not publicize. In this regard, Kuwaiti media were not observed to mention Radio Monte Carlo's report that another missile hit the Kuwaiti coast early 5 September.

In a 6 September meeting the Kuwaiti cabinet viewed Iran's "aggressive acts" against Kuwait as a dangerous escalation of the Gulf conflict, Kuwait's cabinet affairs minister noted in remarks cited by KUNA. Shaykh Sabah will brief Soviet officials on the serious developments in the Gulf during his upcoming visit to Moscow at the head of an Arab League seven-member committee, the minister added. He also referred to a recent outbreak of fire at Kuwait University, noting that the interior minister told cabinet ministers that an investigation is under way to determine its cause.

Saudi Arabia was among several Arab states expressing support for Kuwait in its dispute with Iran. An official Saudi source cited by SPA emphasized the Kingdom's "extreme sorrow" at the damage caused by the missile attack, adding that Saudi Arabia condemns the "repeated treacherous aggression" on Kuwait. The GCC secretariat announced that GCC foreign ministers will discuss the missile attack during their next meeting, which starts in Al-Ta'if 12 September, according to KUNA.

Shipping Attacks — The Iraqi Air Force hit three maritime targets near the Iranian coast in raids 4 and 5 September, the Iraqi command announced in a communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. A Saudi official cited by SPA denied reports that a Saudi tanker was attacked in the Gulf 4 September.

Iran-Iraq Fighting — Iraqi warplanes directed "devastating" blows 4 September to installations in the Ahvaz and Agha Jari oil fields and to oil pumping installations in the Emam Hasan area, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. IRNA acknowledged that three "industrial targets" in Khuzestan were bombed, adding that the raids caused casualties and damage. Although the agency said an Iraqi plane was downed, this claim was denied by an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA.

An Iraqi military spokesman also denied Iran's claims to have launched a new offensive in conjunction with Iraqi Kurdish rebels against Iraqi forces in Irbil Province, INA reported. Battles referred to by Iran did not take place and the situation in northern Iraq is "completely stable," the spokesman maintained. However, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio asserted that Iranian Revolution Guards and Kurdish fighters killed or wounded over 550 Iraqi soldiers during the "Fath-10" offensive launched on 4 September some 80 km inside northern Iraq. A Kurdish commander cited by IRNA accused the Iraqis of using mustard gas against Kurdish villages the previous day, asserting that "scores" of Kurds were killed in the bombardment.

Iranian POW Plan — An Iranian official announced a nine-point Iranian plan for an exchange of POW's with Iraq, IRNA reported 6 September. The plan includes proposals to swap POW's who have been held for over 5 years and prisoners who are over 60 or were under 16 when captured. The official also disclosed that Iran will unilaterally release over 100 Iraqi POW's toward the end of September.

Iranian Comment, Diplomacy — In a Friday sermon carried by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Iran "will not leave any incident unanswered," but it must "be careful not to give any excuse to those intent on exacerbating crises." Iraq wants to start "a world war," he maintained, whereas Iran must maintain "tolerance" and use its resources to prevent such a situation. Nevertheless, the Majlis speaker issued another sharp warning to the United States to withdraw from the Gulf, saying "it is difficult for Reagan to withdraw the naval force, but it will be more difficult for him to receive coffins draped with U.S. flags."

In another development, Tehran radio noted that Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larijani held talks with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov in Moscow 7 September. Vorontsov reportedly expressed the USSR's desire to expand bilateral relations and stressed the need to resist "the encroachments of U.S. imperialism" in the Persian Gulf.

Iraqi Comment, Diplomacy — A 5 September article in the Baghdad paper *Al-Jumhuriyah* criticized the Soviet agency TASS for carrying a report that the United States has secretly instigated Iraq to escalate combat operations against Iran. Stressing that the Iraqis are not the type of people who can be instigated by a foreign side, the paper said Iraq is so sensitive about its independence that it "rejects even hints, let alone green and red lights." TASS should reconsider and correct its "illusion" about Iraqi policymaking, *Al-Jumhuriyah* added. In a statement cited by WAKH the same day, the information minister said that Iraqi-Soviet relations are "strong" and "friendly," but this does not mean Iraq cannot criticize the USSR. In another development, Iraq criticized the "erroneous" policy contained in a recent EEC statement which "deliberately generalizes certain concepts" and considers the Iraqi and Iranian positions on UNSC Resolution 598 to be "alike," according to INA.

As for Iraq's relations with the Arab states, Baghdad radio noted that Iraqi leaders expressed "satisfaction" with the results of an Iraqi delegation's recent visit to Saudi Arabia. The Libyan foreign liaison secretary began official talks with the Iraqi foreign minister in Baghdad 7 September and was received by President Saddam Husayn the following day, INA disclosed. Saddam Husayn met earlier with visiting Jordanian King Husayn, Amman radio reported, adding that the two leaders reviewed the "dangers and threats" facing the Arab nation, especially Iran's "aggression" against pan-Arab security. King Husayn recently told the London paper *Sunday Telegraph* that the Arab world must take a strong stand toward Iran, affirming that he will certainly support an Arab League break of relations with Iran if the latter fails to accept a cease-fire by 20 September. He also stated in an interview cited by the *Jordan Times* that the UN Security Council should impose an arms embargo against the party which refuses to accept Resolution 598.

Saudi Comment on 'Arabistan' — A 1 September Riyadh radio commentary on the Gulf conflict called for the establishment of "Arabistan," an Arab state on the eastern coast of the Gulf that will be a member of the Arab League and United Nations. Asserting that the land on both sides of the Gulf is Arab "both in terms of its position and the language of its population," the radio said it is "inconceivable" that the Persians should continue to rule "an Arab country which was an established independent entity in the past." The 'Arabistan' issue was likewise aired by writers in the Kuwaiti papers *Al-Watan* and *Al-Anba'*.

Libya-Chad Conflict

French forces used a Hawk missile to shoot down a Libyan Tupolev-22 bomber over Ndjamena 7 September, AFP reported, adding that a second Libyan plane fled when its companion was destroyed. JANA acknowledged that a Libyan plane was "hit" during "successful" Libyan raids on Ndjamena Airport and Abeche military base that morning. While JANA said the Libyan planes made "precise hits" on their targets, Ndjamena radio noted that the downed Tupolev was hit before its crew were able to bomb Ndjamena Airport. The radio said that two people were killed and six wounded in the Libyan raid on Abeche, adding that Libyan planes also raided Fada, Tekro, and Ounianga-Kebir 7 September. However, the Libyans failed to damage the newly completed runway at Abeche, AFP disclosed. Meanwhile, Libya's Voice of Greater Arab Homeland (VOGAH) radio warned civilian aircraft not to approach or enter Chadian airspace "as they will be exposed to danger."

The Libyan air raids followed a 5 September Chadian attack on the Libyan base at Ma'tan al-Sarah. Chadian communiques broadcast by Ndjamena radio said the Chadians captured and destroyed the Libyan base after entering Libyan territory in pursuit of a Libyan column that had unsuccessfully attempted to attack Ounianga-Kebir. The Chadians reportedly returned to Chad after inflicting a "catastrophic toll" at Ma'tan al-Sarah, which was a Libyan air base used for attacks on Chadian targets. The Chadian ambassador to Paris claimed that Chadian forces destroyed about 30 aircraft at the base, according to Radio Monte Carlo, while AFP noted that the capture of Ma'tan al-Sarah was confirmed by "Western intelligence services."

However, VOGAH broadcast a Libyan military statement claiming that the 5 September attack on Ma'tan al-Sarah was "crushed and totally destroyed," adding that another attack the following day was also defeated. Nevertheless, Libya's Civil Aviation Authority stated that the "civilian airport" at Ma'tan al-Sarah was "greatly damaged" in the Chadian attack, JANA noted, and Libya's Foreign Liaison Bureau accused France and the United States of "direct participation" in the fighting. The matter no longer concerns an alleged Libyan-Chadian border dispute but is now a question of "organized aggression funded and planned for by America and France in which puppet Habre plays the role of executor," the Bureau stated. JANA also noted that Libya has asked the Soviet Union to press for a U.S. withdrawal from Chad.

Lebanon

Hostage Released — Siemens technician Alfred Schmidt was freed in Beirut 7 September and handed over to the Syrians, DPA disclosed, adding that the FRG hostage's release was attributable to "hard pressure" by Syria and Iran. Schmidt subsequently returned to the FRG via Damascus, Beirut radio noted. The radio cited a statement by Siemens emphasizing that neither it nor Schmidt's family paid any ransom for the hostage's release.

Israeli Raid — A 5 September Israeli air raid on Palestinian targets near Sidon killed 46 people and injured 67, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Local correspondents stated that a large number of civilians were among the casualties of the raid on 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, AFP revealed. However, senior IDF sources cited by Israel's *'Al Hamishmar* denied that the attack was indiscriminate, stressing that the Israeli planes concentrated on two buildings housing "terrorists" and military supplies. Noting that the Palestinians were surprised by an air attack on a Saturday, the sources affirmed that Israel had sound reason to raid these targets as it was acting on information that terrorist squads were about to launch attacks against Israel from them. According to the Voice of Lebanon, the air raid was directed against buildings belonging to the group headed by Sabri al-Banna, alias Abu Nidal. Beirut radio noted that Lebanon will complain to the UN Security Council over the Israeli attack.

The IDF subsequently killed a "terrorist" and wounded another during searches north of Israel's "security zone" in an area from which Katyushas were fired at northern Israel, Jerusalem radio disclosed.

The Iranian foreign minister responded to the Israeli raid with a statement urging Palestinian and Lebanese factions to put aside their differences and turn all their weapons on "the real enemy," Tehran radio reported. They must deny themselves respite until the enemy has been "eradicated" and the "sacred" lands of Lebanon and Palestine have been "liberated," the Iranian statement added.

Other Developments — Beirut radio reported that five people were killed during factional fighting in Tripoli 5 September. Regarding reported differences between Amal and the Iranian-backed Hizballah, Voice of National Resistance radio cited a statement by Amal leader Nabih Birri urging Iran's Ayatollah

Khomeyni to send an investigating committee "to discover the true situation in Lebanon."

Syria

Those who are anxious for normal relations between Syria and the United States will welcome the U.S. ambassador's return to Damascus and will expect the removal of all the "unfriendly and abnormal measures" which obstruct the return of normal relations between the two countries, Damascus radio asserted in a 5 September commentary.

Sudan

The Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party reaffirmed their "alliance" and stressed their commitment to efforts toward a "national government" in a 7 September joint communique reported by SUNA. While pledging to support the present government, the two parties also decided to form a joint committee which will present a "unified proposal" to other political figures. In remarks to *Al-Ayyam* reported by the agency, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi revealed that the two parties have agreed to form a new government in mid-September.

More than 40 people detained under the state of emergency have been ordered released, Information Minister Ma'mun Sanadah announced in a 3 September statement reported by SUNA. The detainees have been warned not to engage in activities which might "undermine democracy."

Regarding the security situation, police in Sannar City, Blue Nile Province, dispersed students protesting the lack of adequate school supplies, the police commissioner told SUNA 7 September. Three people, including two students, were killed, and eight policemen were wounded during the demonstration, according to an *Al-Rayah* report cited by the agency.

The Upper Nile regional governor denied an SPLA claim that Mayom had been captured 2 September and said that the authorities are in "full control" of the region, according to remarks carried by SUNA 6 September. The official noted that government troops inflicted "heavy casualties" on SPLA forces who tried to "storm" the town. Meanwhile, representatives of the SPLM and the Sudanese political parties of the south began meeting in Uganda at the invitation of President Yoweri Museveni, Kampala radio reported. In remarks cited by the radio, SPLM leader John Garang declared that his movement is determined to "go to all lengths" to establish peace.

Tunisian Relations With Libya

In a statement broadcast by Tunis radio following a 5 September meeting with President Habib Bourguiba, Prime Minister Rachid Sfar noted that he had briefed the president on the outcome of a Tunisian envoy's visit to Libya to attend the 1 September revolution anniversary. Bourguiba ordered the continuation of dialogue until normal relations with "sisterly Libya" are reestablished on a clear and firm foundation, Sfar added.

Turkey

A 6 September referendum on restoring full political rights to more than 200 politicians, including former Prime Ministers Suleyman Demirel and Bulent Ecevit, passed by a narrow margin of 50.23 percent in favor to 49.77 percent against, Ankara radio reported. Prime Minister Turgut Ozal declared that general elections will be held in November 1987, a year ahead of schedule, ANATOLIA announced. Ozal noted that the early elections will hasten the restoration of Western-style democracy in Turkey, and he praised the electorate's "great maturity" in a statement cited by the radio.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat, Knesset Members Confer — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat conferred with four Israeli Knesset members in Geneva 7 September, Jerusalem radio reported, adding that 'Arafat reiterated his acceptance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and his support for a peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council. Israeli "Foreign Ministry sources" cited by *The Jerusalem Post* asserted that 'Arafat's remarks on the UN resolutions cannot be taken "seriously" because 'Arafat speaks with "two voices" and has no "credibility."

Delegation in Egypt — A PLO delegation led by Bishop Iliya Khuri was received by Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid 7 September, MENA reported. In remarks cited by the agency, Khuri noted that Egypt has been asked to assist the PLO in resuming "coordination" with Jordan in preparing for an international conference. Khuri also hoped the Egyptian Government will allow the PLO office in Cairo to reopen soon.

GCC Ministerial Council To Meet in Al-Ta'if 12 Sep

LD061315 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1059 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 6 Sep (KUNA) — The GCC General Secretariat today announced that the 24th Ministerial Council session will be convened in Al-Ta'if next Saturday [12 September]. [passage omitted]

To Discuss Missile Attack, War

LD061507 Kuwait KUNA in English 1320 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Riyadh, Sept 6 (KUNA) — The GCC's Foreign Ministerial Council will discuss in its 24th session scheduled for next Saturday current developments in the Gulf region including Friday's missile attack against Kuwait.

The Gulf Cooperation Council's General Secretariat, in a press release distributed here Sunday, said that the six Gulf countries' foreign ministers "will discuss and tackle the missile attack, that is condemned by the Council, in accordance with resolutions of previous sessions."

It elaborated that the Council members will further cover contacts on the Iraq-Iran war following the Arab League Council resolution in this sphere.

The release pointed out that the Council decided to postpone discussing economic issues to another meeting to be attended by the GCC ministers of finance and economy.

Arab League Delegation Leaves for Jordan, USSR

LD071520 Kuwait KUNA in English 1356 GMT 7 Sep 87

[By Saleh Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 7 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir flew this afternoon to Jordan and will later fly to the Soviet Union with messages from H.H. the Amir of Kuwait to King Husayn and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Shaykh Sabah told newsmen "H.H. the Amir entrusted him with conveying messages related to the new developments in the Gulf region and developments in the Arab situation."

In Moscow, where Shaykh Sabah will be leading a delegation from the Arab League seven-nation committee, the minister said the Soviet role in ending the destructive Gulf war and means of implementing Security Council Resolution 598, a settlement to the Iraq-Iran war, will be examined. The Arab League committee is engaged in helping finding a settlement to the Gulf war.

Shaykh Sabah noted that the Security Council resolution has won support from the international community and expressed hopes that this support will continue until the resolution is successfully implemented.

Shaykh Sabah said he carries a message from H.H. the Amir to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and expressed hopes to meet with him to discuss bilateral relations and means of developing ties between the two countries. Shaykh Sabah described Kuwait's relations with the Soviet Union as good and guided by mutual confidence.

Asked on the role of the international community and the U.N. in ending the Iraq-Iran war, Shaykh Sabah said that the responsibility in this sphere is a joint one and all world countries, and particularly the Security Council permanent members, are required to shoulder such responsibility. All shoulder the responsibility of maintaining world peace and security because "global peace is inseparable whether in the Arabian Gulf or the Middle East or any other area in the world," he emphasized.

The deputy premier thanked his brothers, members of the seven-man Arab committee for assigning him along with his colleagues, the deputy premiers and foreign ministers of Iraq Tariq 'Aziz and of Arab Yemen Dr. 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani in addition to Tunisian Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Taib Sahbani to embark on this mission.

Shaykh Sabah and Tariq 'Aziz are scheduled to leave Amman tomorrow aboard one plane for Moscow. On Wednesday, the delegation of the seven-man committee, assigned to follow up Iraq-Iran war developments, will meet with Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Shaykh Sabah is accompanied by a senior Foreign Ministry delegation. He was seen off by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, Jordanian charge d'affaires al-Haj Mu'ayd al-Khatib and Soviet charge d'affaires Vladimir Zentchev.

Delegation Head Leaves for Moscow

LD081050 Kuwait KUNA in English 0906 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Amman, Sept 8 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir left here Tuesday for Moscow winding up one day of talks with King Husayn of Jordan on developments in the Gulf in the light of escalation of armed hostilities.

The top Kuwaiti diplomat also conferred with Crown Prince Hasan and senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and the general Arab scene and met before his departure today with the visiting Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Shaykh Sabah is heading the 7-man Arab League Committee assigned to follow up the raging war between Iran and Iraq which completed its seventh year this month in the hope of finding a just end to it.

Deputy Foreign Minister of Jordan 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali [title as received], acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin, senior Jordanian officials, and Kuwait Embassy personnel saw Shaykh Sabah off at the airport.

'Arafat on International Conference, Other Issues

JN051749 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman, has asserted that the PLO wants an effective international conference with powers to help the Palestinians to obtain their national rights, including the right to establish an independent state.

In a press statement published in Belgrade, Brother Abu 'Ammar said that it is necessary for the permanent UN Security Council members, as well as all the parties concerned, including the PLO, to participate on an equal footing in an international conference on the Middle East. With regard to the role of the Nonaligned Movement's 9-member committee on Palestine, Brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that this committee is one of the basic organs through which preparations for the conference can be made. Brother Abu 'Ammar asserted that an international conference on the Middle East problem now enjoys more support than ever before.

Brother Abu 'Ammar renewed his call on Arab leaders to convene an urgent Arab summit conference to confront the current impasse, as well as the serious challenges facing the Arab nation. He also asserted that the convening of the joint Arab Defense Council has become an inevitable necessity to confront these dangers. He said: The missile which landed on the Kuwaiti coast yesterday was an extremely serious escalation in events.

In a meeting with journalists in Tunis yesterday, Brother Abu 'Ammar renewed his proposal calling for the formation of either a peace-keeping force from the Islamic and nonaligned states or an international force. He asserted that the Gulf region is one of the most dangerous and flammable areas in view of its oil, which has such a strategic importance. Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized the PLO's interest in enhancing its relations with all Arab countries and in consolidating PLO unity.

Brother Abu 'Ammar noted that he had received a positive reply from the Amal Movement's leadership with regard to the PLO's welcome of any solutions to end the siege of Palestinian camps in Lebanon. Brother Abu 'Ammar praised the Palestinian citizens' steadfastness in the occupied territory, as well as their defiance of the Zionist practices and their adherence to the PLO as their legitimate representative. He said: The terrorist Sharon expected that the occupied territory's masses would surrender following the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. But what happened, he added, was contrary to these expectations. The Lebanon battles proved that surprise is no longer a useful military technique for the Zionist enemy army. The war in southern Lebanon is continuing, military operations in the occupied territory are escalating, and the Palestinian struggle is growing, he affirmed. Brother Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the strike staged the day before yesterday by approximately 220,000 Palestinian workers throughout Palestine expresses this steadfastness, as well as the impact of force in paralyzing movement in the Zionist entity.

Commenting on the international conference, Brother Abu 'Ammar reasserted that an international conference for peace as accepted by the PLO must be one that will achieve the Palestinian people's national rights in accordance with international legitimacy and UN resolutions. The five permanent UN Security Council members, as well as all the parties concerned, headed by the PLO, must participate in such a conference, he added.

'Arafat Arrives in Geneva 6 Sep for UN Meetings

JN072039 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1815 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Geneva last night at the head of a Palestinian delegation to attend an international meeting which includes representatives from more than 120 nongovernmental organizations. The delegation will represent Palestine at meetings to be held at the United Nations Palace in Geneva today.

The meetings will continue until 9 September under UN auspices. Their aim is to revive the idea of convening an extensive international conference on Palestine to be attended by all the sides concerned, including the PLO. The meetings will also discuss the political and human rights of the Palestinian people. A final communique will be issued on Wednesday following the election of a new international coordinating committee. [passage omitted]

Intense Fighting With Libya Reported 4-8 Sep

Libya Bombs Gouro 4 Sep

AB041933 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Libyan bombings continue with barbarism and savagery in the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region. The invaders' planes today shelled the town of Gouro, north of Faya-Largeau, with unprecedented intensity.

These blind bombings are aimed at bringing our country under the yoke of the Libyan slave traders. The fascist group which currently governs in Tripoli does not hide its colonialist designs on our country. In fact, 1 September, 1987, a dark day for Libyans, provided the occasion for Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to reiterate his slave-trader's ideas on Chad.

Libya Bombs Ounianga-Kebir 5 Sep

AB051618 Paris AFP in French 1553 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Sep (AFP) — The Libyan Air Force has intensified its air raids on the northern part of Chad and has been bombing the Chadian locality of Ounianga-Kebir, since this morning, the Chadian High Command announced this afternoon. The Libyan bombings on Ounianga-Kebir, which began early this morning, continued into the early afternoon, the Chadian General Staff pointed out, stating that they were "intensive and uninterrupted."

Since the beginning of the battle between the FANT and the Libyan troops for control of the Aozou region, at the extreme end of the Chadian-Libyan border, the bombardments have become almost a daily affair in that region, according to Ndjamena.

Land Attack Launched on Ounianga-Kebir

AB051720 Paris AFP in French 1652 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Sep (AFP) — The Libyan Army today launched a land offensive against the Chadian locality of Ounianga-Kebir, located about 100 km south of the Aozou Strip, the Chadian General Staff has said. Ounianga-Kebir is located in the valley of the Borkou region, between the Tibesti mountains in the northwest and the Ennedi mountains in the northeast of Chad. It is also located north of the big oasis at Faya-Largeau, chief town of the Chadian BET (Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti) Province, which is separated from Ndjamena by 800 km of desert land.

"The battle is currently raging," a spokesman of the Chadian General Staff stated at 1525 local time (1625 GMT).

Communique on Ounianga-Kebir Bombing

AB051956 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1859 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Military Communique No 89 issued by the FANT High Command on 5 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] In his urge to destroy our human potential and to weaken us, the mad man of Sidra has been ordering, at will, the bombardment of the north of our country. Today, 5 September 1987, the Libyan Air Force has been carrying out an intensive and incessant bombardment of Ounianga-Kebir since 0500 local time [0400 GMT]. At this very moment as we are broadcasting this communique, the bombardments are continuing with intensity.

Whatever the activities of the enemy, the FANT will use their energy and all their strength to defend heroically and brilliantly Chad's territorial integrity.

Communique on Ounianga-Kebir Battle

AB051940 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Military Communique No 90 issued by the FANT High Command on 5 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] For almost 20 years now, the fascist regime in Tripoli has been fighting a barbaric and criminal war against Chad. This war is at times camouflaged, and at times open. For almost 20 years now, the [word indistinct] Al-Qadhdhafi has killed, and continues to massacre Chadians, without sparing women, children, or the elderly. For almost 20 years now, the bandit Al-Qadhdhafi has transformed the Chadian issue into a camp to experiment with deadly weapons of all categories on human beings, fauna, flora, and any living specie. For almost 20 years now, the little satan Al-Qadhdhafi has been occupying a portion of sacred Chadian territory. He has been humiliating Chadians, flouting the honor and dignity of the Chadian people, and trampling on the freedom and independence of the Chadian nation. On 1 September 1987, the bandit Al-Qadhdhafi stated openly to the world that he is the imam, the master and the owner of Chadians.

In the face of all these facts and in the face of the obstinate and arrogant refusal of the pirate Al-Qadhdhafi to reach any peaceful settlement to the Chadian-Libyan armed conflict, acting in self-defense, the FANT today exchanged fire, at 1300, [1200 GMT] with a column of Libyan invaders who were heading from Ma'tan al-Sarah toward Ounianga-Kebir. At this very moment, the battle between the Libyan aggressors and the FANT is raging. The results of this violent battle will be given to you later. People of Chad, the FANT, faithful to their highly noble and sacred mission, are determined, more than ever before, to crush the slave trader Al-Qadhdhafi and his gang of savage mercenaries. The time for general mobilization has come. Every Chadian must give his best for the salvation of the fatherland and the triumph of freedom.

Libya Defeated in Ounianga-Kebir

AB052019 Paris AFP in French 2000 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Sep (AFP) — The Chadian Army today won a victory over the Libyan troops in the Ounianga-Kebir region, in the north of Chad, and has begun chasing them to the Libyan border, it was learned from reliable sources.

The small locality of Ounianga-Kekir is located about 100 km south of the Aozou Strip; a 112,000 sq km territory claimed by Libya. It is located 220 km north of the big oasis of Faya-Largeau, in the Borkou valley, between the Tibesti mountains, in the west, and the Ennedi mountains in the east.

Ma'tan al-Sarah Base Destroyed 5 Sep
AB052125 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 2103 GMT Sep 87

[Communique No 91 of the FANT High Command issued on 5 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] In Communique No 90, it was announced that violent fighting was taking place not far from Ounianga-Kebir. This particularly fierce fighting resulted in the total flight of Al-Qadhdhafi's mercenaries, as they were chased out up to the military base at Ma'tan al-Sarah, which has presently fallen into the hands of the glorious and heroic FANT. The annihilation of the Al-Qadhdhafi aggressors and the destruction of the murderous Ma'tan al-Sarah air and land military complex, must be written in golden letters in the great and brilliant book of victories won by the intrepid FANT over the forces of invasion and evil. The very heavy and catastrophic toll suffered by the barbaric expansionists will be announced to you later. Forward, valiant FANT! Forward, heroes of Chad's freedom and dignity. The fatherland or death, victory is certain.

Western Intelligence Confirms Report
AB052101 Paris AFP in French 2043 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 5 Sep (AFP) — The Chadian Army today totally destroyed the Ma'tan al-Sarah air and land base, located in southeast Libya, about 100 km north of the Chadian-Libyan disputed border, the Chadian General Staff has announced. The capture of this base by the Chadians and its destruction was immediately confirmed by Western intelligence services. For its part, the Libyan official news agency JANA stated early in the evening that the Chadians had launched an offensive inside Libyan territory against what it called "the civilian airport at Al-Sarah."

Victory at Ma'tan al-Sarah Hailed
AB060745 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The FANT has just kept their promise by giving a well deserved lesson to Al-Qadhdhafi's men [words indistinct]. We said not very long ago that the Libyan soldiers that survived the Aozou adventure would live through the worst times of their lives. When the Libyans chanted victory after taking control of one FANT position north of Aozou, we said that their smile would soon become a grimace. This is in fact what happened last night when our troops captured and completely destroyed the Ma'tan al-Sarah military complex, one of Libya's largest military bases in southeast Libya, along the Ounianga-Kebir-Kufra road. The base is of proven strategic importance for Libya because it enabled the Libyans to maintain close surveillance over three neighboring countries, namely, Chad, Sudan, and Egypt. It was from this base that all the planes that bombed Yebbi Bou, Ouadi Doum, Faya-Largeau, and Gouro, took off. So, this military victory just won by our soldiers is of considerable importance.

It will be noted that, for the first time, the Chad-Libya conflict was carried into Libyan territory with last night's major development. The Tripoli forces, which were attempting to attack the FANT by surprise at Ounianga and occupy (?our positions), went to a lot of trouble for nothing, as the FANT's riposte went beyond all expectations. At any rate, it will go down in history that the young Chadian Army and President Hissein Habre have restored the Chadian people's pride and dignity and thwarted Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's hegemonistic dreams, thus rendering an invaluable service to the Chadian cause and to the world in general.

We will take this opportunity to reiterate the Chadian people's admiration and support for the FANT. All over the Chadian territory, from the largest cities to the smallest hamlets, the hearts of our compatriots are beating in unison in solidarity with our brave FANT men. At this very moment, the grimace on the Libyans' faces, and particularly on Al-Qadhdhafi's face, is not pleasant to look at.

AFP Details Ma'tan al-Sarah Clash
AB061219 Paris AFP in English 1153 GMT 6 Sep 87

[By Christian Millet]

[Excerpts] Ndjamena, Sept 6 (AFP) — Chad's lightning cross-border strike Saturday on a major military base in southeast Libya was the biggest operation of its kind in the history of Saharan warfare, according to foreign observers in the Chadian capital.

They said the operation took the form of a classic "rezzou," the name given to a hit-and-run raid by nomad bands in which tribesmen descend on an oasis or village and seize or destroy their adversaries' material. The tribesmen who are the core of Chad's rapid deployment force adopted identical tactics, using anti-tank [words indistinct] instead of swords and dromedaries, informed sources here said.

The sources said that President Hissein Habre's troops overran the Libyan air base at Ma'tan al-Sarah, about 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Chad's internationally-recognised borders, at 3:15 p.m. (1415 GMT) on Saturday.

By midday Sunday, Chadian military command had still made no detailed statement on the operation, but intelligence sources here said the raiders were certain to have achieved a significant military result. [passage omitted]

Some 2,500 Libyan troops were based at Ma'tan al-Sarah, together with 30 combat aircraft and helicopters, including Soviet-built MIG-25, MIG-23 and Sukhoi-22 fighter-bombers and Tupoley-22 heavy bombers, the sources said. The radar installations and 300-metre runway was defended by batteries of

SAM-6 and SAM-13 anti-aircraft missiles, by long-range artillery including 155mm. and 122mm. guns, and by Soviet-built BMP and T-55 armoured vehicles. The base, which military experts described as a kind of desert aircraft-carrier, was also protected by large minefields.

The Chadian contingent of some 2,000 men was led by Commander Hassan Djamous and used Toyota 4 x 4 armoured vehicles mounted with twin-tube rapid-fire 14.5mm. and 23mm. guns, together with French light reconnaissance and support vehicles carrying Milan anti-tank missiles, informed sources here said. [passage omitted]

Objective of Ma'tan al-Sarah Attack
LD061353 Paris Domestic Service in French
1100 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpts] There have been comings and goings in Chad. While the Libyans were launching a new offensive in the north of the country, the Chadians have entered Libyan territory for the first time. [passage omitted]

Chadian Ambassador to Paris Ahmad Allam-mi gave details of these operations to reporter Philippe Reltien:

[Begin recording][Allam-mi]The Libyan Army has been pursued and chased back in disorder to the bitter end, in fact, from where it came — the Libyan military base at Mat'an al-Sarah. This is a self-defense operation, a reprisal operation. First of all, there are more than 3,000 men at Mat'an al-Sarah and more than 30 combat planes. [passage omitted] and there are also hundreds of tanks. [passage omitted] There are hundreds of all-purpose vehicles. So it is a colossal base. It is an impressive and massive defeat for the Libyan aggressor.

[Reltien] Are the Chadians going to stay at this base?

[Allam-mi] The Chadians do not intend to occupy any part of Libyan territory. It is true that a base has been set up in the middle of the desert at the Chadian-Libyan border, which is called (Tanoua) — the Aozou base — and it should not be there. It constitutes a serious threat to Chad's security. It is in the interests of both countries and both peoples, and of peace in the region, that this base should disappear. [end recording]

Libya Bombs Yebbi Bou, Ounianga-Kebir
AB061951 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1850 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Shortly after the announcement yesterday by the FANT High Command that the Ma'tan al-Sarah base had been captured, the Libyan Air Force embarked upon [words indistinct] in that base, in despair, as they did following the liberation of Ouadi Doum. But, more than in Ouadi Doum, the Libyans have stored a large war arsenal in Ma'tan-al-Sarah and they would rather see this arsenal destroyed than falling into the hands of the FANT. But the Libyan Air Force also carried out violent raids throughout the day and this afternoon on Yebbi Bou, Ounianga-Kebir, and Wour. [passage omitted]

'Heavy' Losses Inflicted on Libya
AB070710 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
0530 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The major event, 48 hours after its occurrence, is still, and will be for a long time, the seizure on 5 September of the Libyan military base at Ma'tan al-Sarah by the FANT and the impressive battle between the Libyan troops and the courageous FANT soldiers in the region of Ounianga-Kebir.

This battle, which was particularly relentless, resulted in the total routing of Al-Qadhdhafi's mercenaries, (?who retreated to) the Ma'tan al-Sarah military base, which definitely fell into the hands of the glorious and heroic FANT. The annihilation of Al-Qadhdhafi's aggressors and the destruction of the huge land and air military complex at Ma'tan al-Sarah, is an event that should be inscribed in golden letters on the large and splendid board of the victories scored by the bold FANT over the forces of invasion and evil.

The very heavy and catastrophic casualties inflicted on the expansionist barbarians will be released later.

Libyan Plane Downed; Abeche Bombed
AB071419 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1335 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] A large Libyan Soviet-made Tupolev-22 plane was shot down this morning at 0658 local time over Ndjamena. The Libyan Army plane had a well defined mission: to totally destroy the international airport of the Chadian capital. The mission was not accomplished. The Libyan Tupolev-22 plane was shot down by the Chadian anti-aircraft defense system. Three Libyan soldiers were found in the wrecked plane, three pilots, three navigators and one [word indistinct]. What a macabre death!

The plane burned up entirely [words indistinct]. The debris of the plane was [words indistinct] Ndjamena International Airport. The Tupolev-22 plane, which was carrying fragmentation bombs, crashed approximately 600 meters from a fuel depot. The plane was about to drop its bombs on [words indistinct] when it was downed at Farcha.

The Tupolev-22 is a supersonic bomber of Soviet make [words indistinct] at 0658 this morning, the few inhabitants of Ndjamena were surprised [words indistinct]. The downed aircraft [words indistinct]. Quickly, the inhabitants of central Ndjamena headed for Farcha, the site of the accident, in order to see the damage — very serious damage. The colonel of Tripoli is only [words indistinct] several military defeats it has suffered in the war he has waged against the Republic of Chad. Ma'tan al-Sarah, an important Libyan base situated 100 km inside Libyan territory, has been totally destroyed by the unstoppable FANT, and the team of oppressors in Tripoli is in an uncomfortable position with the Libyan people.

The FANT has exposed Al-Qadhdhafi's inability to govern a country which he took by force from King Idriss. Wherever the military emissaries of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi launch an offensive against Chad, the FANT, fighting with (?determination), have finally caused a real storm within the Libyan ranks.

The Libyan soldiery has attacked Ounianga-Kebir and not only has the FANT chased them out, but they have pursued them and mopped up their trail until reaching the Libyan base of Ma'tan al-Sarah. This proves that the FANT is [words indistinct] Libyan territory, but it is not necessary to [words indistinct] in order to respect the law, and borders inherited from the colonial masters.

This morning, a Tupolev-22 vainly tried to bomb the Ndjamena airport, but the pilots paid the price with their lives. They have lost (?their lives). Al-Qadhdhafi will no longer attempt to (?bomb Ndjamena). In addition to the aborted bombardment of Ndjamena, Abeche was also (?bombed) by the Libyan Air Force. [Words indistinct] the defeat of the expansionist Al-Qadhdhafi [words indistinct] forces of Tripoli can boast of having accomplished a negative operation, making the world believe that the army [words indistinct] Aozou, after they have been chased out by the FANT 14 years after the Libyan occupation. [passage indistinct]

[Words indistinct], if you were in the place of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, [words indistinct] a humiliated man beset with the madness of persecution, abandoned by his people, trying to make threats of popular revolt capable of [words indistinct]. Intoxication, disinformation, [words indistinct] in Libya, specifically in his infernal circle of violence, revolt, repression, [passage indistinct].

'Correction' on Downing of Plane

AB072208 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1915 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] We are going back to this very important military news for a correction: A big Libyan Tupolev-22 bomber of Soviet make was shot down this morning, at exactly 0658, over Ndjamena. As you know, the barbaric mission of this aircraft belonging to the Libyan Air Force was simple — to completely destroy the capital's international airport. This is where the correction comes in: The Tupolev-22 was shot down by the DCA [?Defense Contre Avion] of elements of "Operation Sparrowhawk."

Two Killed in Bombing of Abeche

AB071519 Paris AFP in French 1234 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Ndjamena, 7 Sep (AFP) — A raid this morning on Abeche, in eastern Chad, by a Tupolev-22, killed two people and wounded five, all civilians, it was learned this morning from Chadian and French sources. The 2,800 meter runway, which was completed on 4 September, was not damaged, the same sources confirmed. This runway, situated 700 kilometers northeast of Ndjamena, is a second large launching point for the maneuvers of the Chadian and French air forces. All types of airplanes can land on it, from the large C-5 Galaxy of the U.S. Air Force to the French Mirage F-1 of the "Sparrowhawk" operation put in place in Chad in February 1986. Two of the five bombs released by the Tupolev-22 Blinder-A fell near the runway — the first about 100 meters from the tarmac, and the second 500 meters away from the "racket" where the airplanes turn around, it was learned from Chadian and French sources.

Two Libyan Planes Downed

AB070828 Paris AFP in English 0826 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Paris, Sept 7 (AFP) — Two Libyan Tupolev 22 bombers were shot down over the Chadian capital of Ndjamena Monday, a Chad Embassy spokesman announced here.

It had earlier reported only one plane shot down, and added that the explosion of the second plane had at first been mistaken for that of a bomb. In Ndjamena an AFP correspondent saw a French-manned anti-aircraft battery bring down one of the planes, using a U.S.-made Hawk missile.

The AFP correspondent said the Soviet-built plane exploded and broke up, the wreckage spiralling to earth behind a fuel dump about 500 metres (yards) north of the base. The embassy in Paris said both planes crashed at Farcha, on the outskirts of the city.

The AFP correspondent later saw French-piloted Mirage fighter-bombers taking off from Ndjamena airport.

The plane flew in from the north along the Chari River which forms the frontier between Chad and Cameroon and did not appear to have been trying to hit the airport runway.

Its intended target seemed to be either the Franco-Chadian air base near the airport or the residence of Chadian President Hissein Habre.

Meanwhile, Chadian officials in Ndjamena reported that a Libyan warplane had bombed the town of Abeche, some 700 kilometres (450 miles) east of the capital.

Work on lengthening and repairing the airstrip at Abeche to permit its use for air surveillance by French forces, in addition to Ndjamena airport, was completed last Friday.

In Paris, speaking before news of Monday's incidents, French Offence Minister Andre Iraud said on Radio Monte Carlo that the defence arrangement between France and Chad was "essentially deterrent and defensive and we do not want any Franco-Libyan clash."

He added: "Risks of confrontation between Libya and France could only come from Libyan intervention, notably bombing inside Chadian territory."

Ounianga, Tekro, Fada Bombed 7 Sep

AB072033 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In addition to the bombardment of Ndjamena, Abeche and Fada were bombarded by the Libyan Air Force. At Abeche, the colonialist dogs killed two civilians and wounded six others. At the time we are announcing this, the raids of the Libyan Air Force are continuing on Ounianga-Kebir and Tekro with an uncommon violence and intensity. At Fada this morning, fragmentation bombs were unleashed on the civilian population.

FANT Returns After Al-Sarah Raid

AB072049 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Press communique of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs read by the permanent secretary of the ministry on 7 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] This morning at 0700 sharp, a Libyan Tupolev-22 aircraft was shot down over Ndjamena International Airport. This aircraft and another of the same type, which fled, tried in vain to bomb the airport and the city of Ndjamena. Several minutes later, two other Tupolev-22 aircraft bombed the city of Abeche, killing two innocent victims among the civilian population and wounding six. The material damage is very great.

For over a decade, Chad had been living daily with the war of invasion imposed on it by the racist and expansionist regime of Tripoli. Thousands of Chadian martyrs have fallen on the battlefield while defending the fatherland. Others are doing so and will continue to do so until Libya and its friends end the armed aggression and evacuate Chadian territory — whose internationally recognized borders are in no way ambiguous with regard to international agreements. Chad is the victim of aggression; Libya is the agrressor. The martyred people of Chad and their government have, at the same time, the sacred duty and inalienable right to defend the fatherland. The Chadian people and their government have not failed in their duty, and will not hesitate whenever the need is felt to use their natural right to self-defense.

Libya is sparing no means to pursue its warmongering designs and attain its expansionist goals against Chad. Libya, in contravention of international conventions, is using fragmentation, napalm, and toxic gas bombs to destroy Chad and to exterminate the defenseless civilian population. The world knows that Libya does not manufacture these bombs. It has the means to buy them or the possibility to receive them from those who manufacture them. Who, therefore, has been selling or giving these bombs to Libya? Who has been standing by the side of the Libyan aggressor to encourage it and violate with it the international conventions that forbid the use of these bombs? Why does the international community not react and why does it maintain a silence that borders on complicity?

Chad, which is the victim of aggression, will continue to defend itself. By valiantly ensuring its defense, Chad is challenging those who support Libya and who have been busy with reversing the roles of the aggressor and the victims of aggression. Thus, following Chad's appeal, the praiseworthy aid and assistance given by friendly countries, instead of being hailed by all peace and justice-loving countries, have been perceived — mainly by those who support Libya — as an encouragement given to Chad to make war. The international community must not be mistaken in attributing the roles and responsibilities of the aggressor to the one who is the victim of aggression.

Chad, which has been attacked, proclaims loudly that it will exercise its right to self-defense. It is in making use of its right to self-defense that the FANT, on Saturday, 5 August, warded off an attack by a Libyan column in the region of Ounianga-Kebir and launched an offensive operation on the Libyan air and land base of Ma'tan al-Sarah from which Libyan aircraft have been bombarding Chadian towns and villages day and night. The Ma'tan-al-Sarah base was built in the middle of the desert close to the Chadian border to serve as an air and land support point for the hegemonistic ambitions of Libya on Chad. This base represented a permanent threat to Chad which, in self-defense, Chad has destroyed. With its mission well accomplished, the FANT, after exercising the right of pursuit up to Ma'tan al-Sarah, returned to their base in Chadian territory.

Communique on Ma'tan al-Sarah Clash

AB081417 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1344 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Communique No 92 issued by the FANT High Command on 8 September in Ndjamena]

[Text] Mission accomplished — yes; mission well accomplished, then return to the base. As a matter of fact, our valiant FANT, our glorious freedom fighters, have disregarded all risks and dangers and undertaken the audacious action of neutralizing the air and land base of Ma'tan al-Sarah. They have fully accomplished their (?noble) and major mission. The folowing results of the mission are evidence of its significance and its scope.

On the enemy side some 1,713 corpses were counted; 312 men were taken prisoner, including 2 Yugoslav mercenaries and 1 East German mercenary; hundreds of fugitives will certainly die of thirst.

The following equipment was seized: some (?85) Toyota troop carriers; (?10 Mercedes); 15 Landrovers mounted with radio communication gear; [words indistinct]; and (?120) light weapons.

The following equipment was destroyed: 3 MIG-23's and 1 Mi-24 helicopter shot down along with their crew.

The (?22) planes destroyed (?on the ground) are composed as follows: 6 MIG-22's; 4 Mirage planes; [figure indistinct] T-39 destroyed; 2 [words indistinct] destroyed; 1 Mi-24 helicopter destroyed. Therefore, a total of [words indistinct].

Seventy (?tanks) including (?10) T-55's were destroyed as well as the following equipment: 30 BMP's; 21 BM-21's; 12 122-mm guns; (?53) [words indistinct]; 21 surface-to-surface missiles; 57

[caliber indistinct] guns; radio [words indistinct]; [words indistinct]; 12 radar stations; (?87) Toyota troop carriers; [words indistinct] 57 pieces of military engineering equipment; [words indistinct] quantity of ammunition of all calibers; [words indistinct]; 2 runways; [words indistinct].

On the FANT side, a total of 65 martyrs died gloriously on the battlefield while 112 were wounded. Some 17 light vehicles, 5 heavy duty trucks, (?8) AML's [light armored vehicles], 3 refuellers, and [words indistinct] were destroyed.

It will be recalled, given these results, that the large-scale criminal operation launched by [passage indistinct] to the Chadian Armed Forces and the Chadian people will always be grateful to you.

Libya Preparing Attack From Sudan

AB071528 Paris AFP in French 1428 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 7 Sep (AFP) — The Chadian ambassador in Khartoum, Mr Naitine Djoumbe, said today that Libyan or pro-Libyan soldiers were preparing to attack Chad from Darfour in western Sudan. Speaking during a press conference at the Chad Embassy in Khartoum, Mr Djoumbe added that present Libyan military tactics consist of attacking simultaneously from the Chad-Libya border and the Sudan-Chad border. The Chadian envoy however specified repeatedly that he has not at any moment accused the Sudanese Government of facilitating the Libyan military presence on its territory. Mr Djoumbe appeared to be anxious to spare the Khartoum authorities, whom this affair has embarrased to the highest degree. [passage omitted]

The Chadian ambassador's press conference was initially meant to give information on contacts made with Mr Muhammad 'Uthman al-Sayyid 'Ali Mirghani, head of the Unionist Democratic Party of Sudan, following some statements of the latter implying that the Aozou Strip "was an integral part of Libya." "Such remarks, as well as those made by the secretary general of the Arab League, Mr Chedli Klibi, amount to a stab in the back of the OAU," the ambassador emphasized. He explained that "Chadian sovereignty over the Strip is not negotiable," adding however that Ndjamena was prepared to negotiate a settlement to that problem, especially through the intermediary of the OAU.

Former Original Frolinat Leader Returns, Meets Habre

AB041122 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] In the context of national reconciliation, Abdelkader Yacine, a former Original Frolinat leader, returned to Chad last weekend after a long exile. Mr Yacine, who has thus heeded the Chadian Government's call for unity among Chadians, was received on 2 September by President El-Hadj Hissein Habre inthe presence of Animal Husbandry Minister Seid Bauche. Mr Yacine was accompanied by his close aides from the Original Frolinat. In an interview yesterday afternoon with Radio Chad, Abdelkader Yacine outlined the reasons for his return to Chad. Let us listen to an excerpt of his interview with Moussa Dabo.

[Begin Yacine recording in Arabic followed by passage-by-passage translation into French] We decided to break ties with Libya because of its unacceptable demand that we continue waging war against Chad, a war in the (?sole interest of Libya). This condition set by Libya is contrary to the kind of liberation we are working for. The occupying force will not help us to free... [changes thought] to overcome the difficulties with which the Chadian masses are confronted. We have been optimistic over the years about chances for a peaceful solution to the Chadian problem. As soon as a glimmer of hope appears, the Libyans stand up to thwart every effort. From the (?Brazzaville) meeting to Libreville and Algeria, Libya has left no stone unturned to frustrate peace efforts and attempts at national reconciliation in Chad. [end recording]

In addition to these reasons, his return has been prompted by the deteriorating atmosphere within the opposition and the outburst of nationalism evident in the rejection of Libya's increased aggressive activities. Asked if he had set any conditions for his return home, the former Original Frolinat leader stated that the essential condition is the restoration of unity among all the sons of Chad so that we can together fight the Libyan aggressors. That is also the main concern of President Hissein Habre whom we met last January in Baghdad and who told us of his desire to achieve national reconciliation, Abdelkader Yacine added.

Asked to assess how the repeated calls for national reconciliation made by the Chadian Government are viewed, Mr Yacine said there is not a common position, adding: A sign of evolution is, however evident; for instance, Acheikh Ibn Oumar's readiness to open talks without any preconditions. Mr Yacine said his talks on 2 September with the head of state proved very useful. President Hissein Habre is a comrade-in-arms and we took the opportunity to examine all the difficulties facing our country, especially the Chad-Libya conflict, he stated.

On his first impressions upon returning to Chad, the Original Frolinat leader noted that many changes have taken place and confessed his pleasant surprise at the development level achieved despite the war situation of the country and the difficult world crisis.

'Abd al-Majid Condemns Iranian Aggression on Kuwait

NC071538 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) — Egypt today announced that it strongly denounces the recent acts of aggression against Kuwait.

Dr Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stated that Egypt strongly condemns any attack by Iran against the fraternal state of Kuwait, Kuwaiti territory, or in Kuwaiti territorial waters.

He added that Egypt is following the news of Tehran's missile attacks on and threats against the territory of Kuwait with great interest and extreme concern.

'Abd al-Majid stated: Logic and wisdom dictate the preparation of an appropriate atmosphere for the UN secretary general's visit to both Iran and Iraq in an attempt to find an honorable and peaceful solution to their dispute on the basis of Security Council Resolution 598 of 20 July. He added that there is no justification for expanding the scope of the war and for involving the fraternal state of Kuwait.

In conclusion, Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that it is time for the Arab states to unite their ranks in order to confront developments in the region.

Paper Denounces Iran's Missile Attack on Kuwait

NC050731 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA) — In its commentary today, the *Al-Jumhuriyah* newspaper vehemently denounces Iran's missile attack on Kuwait's southern coast in retaliation for Iraq's effective raids on Iranian oil tankers and economic targets deep inside Iranian territory.

The paper notes that both the Arab world and the international community regard this step by Tehran's ayatollahs to be a serious escalation of the situation in one of the world's most volatile regions and another link in a chain of actions that indicate unbalanced behavior. The paper adds that the Iranian regime is determined to pursue this course of action. *Al-Jumhuriyah* calls on the UN Security Council members in general, and the two superpowers in particular, to immediately and earnestly intervene to compel the Iranian regime to halt the ferocious war and to submit to the international community's unanimous will, as expressed through its approval of the Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire. The paper calls on these countries to force the two warring sides to submit to the international community's will and to subsequently move to settle their dispute through peaceful means.

The paper concludes its commentary by welcoming the Security Council's decision authorizing the UN secretary general to visit Tehran and Baghdad for the express purpose of discussing ways to implement the recent UN Security Council resolution and nothing else. If these steps were to fail, the next move would be to impose an international ban on the sale of arms to Iran.

Government Rejects Iranian Offer To Talk

PM071435 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 24 Aug 87 pp 1, 5

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar report: "Egypt Refuses To Receive Iranian Government Envoys"]

[Text] The Egyptian Government has rejected an offer made by Iranian authorities via Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The offer calls for Iranian envoys to be sent to Cairo at a date to be fixed by Egypt to discuss with senior officials in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry all pending problems between the two countries. Foremost of these is the problem of the approximately 3,000 Egyptian prisoners being held in Tehran's jails, whom Iran detained 2 years ago during military operations at the two Iraqi islands of Khark and Majnun. [as published] They were employees of the Iraqi Southern Oil Authority.

At that time, the Iranian Government claimed that all Egyptian prisoners were fighting alongside Iraqi forces. Iran also captured 70 Egyptian fishermen who were sailing within Kuwaiti territorial waters. It accused them of spying for Iraq! Last January, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i expressed readiness to release 16 Egyptian fishermen who had been proved innocent of the charge of spying for Iraqi forces. Khamene'i made it conditional that direct contacts be undertaken with the Egyptian Government, but Egypt refused to respond to the Iranian terms. *Al-Wafd* has learned that the Iranian offer stipulated that talks be held between the two countries to discuss the possibility of releasing $1 billion — the value of Iranian capital frozen in the Egypt-Iran Bank for Development. The Iranian offer also stipulated that Iranian envoys would explain the Iranian viewpoint with regard to the Gulf war and all international resolutions aimed at ending the Iraq-Iran conflict. Three months ago, Egypt deported the official in charge of Iranian interests in Cairo because his moves violated diplomatic conventions. Egypt declared its desire not to have any contact with the Iranian regime after the latter rejected all international efforts undertaken to establish peace between Tehran and Baghdad. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, confirmed that Iran refuses to provide information about the number of Egyptian prisoners being held in Tehran despite the mediation of certain friendly states and the International Red Cross in Geneva.

Paper Cited on Attempt on Life of U.S. Official

JN061036 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo — Egyptian press reports today revealed that a new attempt to assassinate a senior U.S. official has taken place in Cairo. In today's issue, the Egyptian *Sawt al-'Arab* said that a new attempt to assassinate Dennis Williams, the official in charge of security at U.S. embassies in the Middle East, took place last week.

The paper explained that someone had planted several sticks of dynamite beside an electric cable attached to the U.S. official's office in the Al-Ma'adi suburb. This resulted in the burning of the cable, which started a fire in the office. The paper noted that only coincidence saved the U.S. official — he arrived at his

residence from annual leave in the United States half an hour after the incident took place due to a delay at Cairo airport.

Sudanese Minister in Cairo; Announces Resignation

NC052220 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2135 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA) — Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad has announced that he has sent his resignation to Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. In an exclusive statement to MENA, he said: "My decision to resign is a personal one, and I do not expect a reply."

He explained that he considers his resignation from the Cabinet effective since the Democratic Unionist Party announced the dissolution of the coalition with the Al-Ummah Party.

Muhammad Tawfiq Ahmad arrived in Cairo from Tunis after participating in the recent Arab foreign ministers meeting there.

The Sudanese newspaper *Al-Adwa'* today reported that the Sudanese foreign minister had resigned.

This is the second resignation among ministers belonging to the Democratic Unionist Party. Health Minister Dr Husayn Abu Salih resigned 3 weeks ago. A decision on that resignation has been postponed.

Libya 'Beleaguered' by Defeats in War With Chad

NC070559 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 2045 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Despite our complete opposition to any state's aggression against the territory of another, the sudden development in the ongoing Libyan-Chadian war cannot be categorized or described as a Chadian aggression against Libyan territory in the generally accepted sense of the word in accordance with the rules of international law. If the parable that the wrongdoer shall pay for his wrongdoing is to be applied to the course and development of events in the fighting between Libya and Chad, then it certainly applies to what has happened recently in the wake of the Al-Qadhdhafi regime's successive defeats. These defeats have caused the Libyan regime to lose its balance, have upset all criteria, and have resulted in the Chadian forces' penetration deep inside Libyan territory, not only to pursue the fleeing and defeated remnants of Al-Qadhdhafi's forces, but to destroy one of the biggest Libyan military bases; namely, the Mat'an al-Sarah base. Hence, the Chadian forces have put the Libyan regime in a critical and unenviable position. [passage omitted]

In view of the seriousness of the situation and the fact that what has happened cannot be denied or concealed now that international news agencies have reported it, the Libyan regime, which usually falsifies matters, has been compelled to seek some explanations for what has transpired and to try and involve other parties in an attempt to justify its defeat and failure and cover up the collapse of its Armed Forces in a war which has been continuing for years. [passage omitted]

We do not know how long the Libyan regime will continue to falsify matters and to deceive the Libyan people, believing that by so doing it can absolve itself of responsibility for what has happened and for what might happen. Will things be made easier for the Libyan people and will Al-Qadhdhafi and his collaborators be absolved of responsibility on the basis of the regime's allegation that its successive defeats have been the result of foreign factors and causes? Thebeleaguered Libyan regime, which is facing its most serious crisis, is now fumbling and hallucinating — so much so that it has become an object of ridicule.

Although an attack on the territory of any state is illegal and should not be supported, this does not mean that those who have been the cause for what has happened should be absolved of responsibility. [passage omitted]

Therefore, the Libyan people should act quickly to overthrow Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, put an end to its failing adventures, work for halting that war, and live with their neighbors in security, stability, and good-neighborliness.

Libyan Opposition Criticizes Al-Qadhdhafi Remarks

NC041437 Cairo MENA in English 1420 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Alexandria, Sept 4 (MENA) — The National Front for the Salvage of Libya has strongly condemned the fierce attack launched by the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi against Egypt in the speech he delivered last Tuesday on the occasion of September 1 revolution.

A spokesman for the front said that the conduct of Al-Qadhdhafi in no way represents the Libyan people, its values or conscience.

The spokesman further underlined that all the attempts by Al-Qadhdhafi will not undermine the historic relations linking the Egyptian to the Libyan people.

Commentary Urges Arabs To 'Wipe Out' Libyan Regime

NC072006 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "Al-Qadhdhafi Phenomenon Is a Stigma to the Libyan People"]

[Text] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi plays a prominent role in creating and fomenting the catastrophes which inundate the Arab world. The colonel has never once stood in support of any Arab, Islamic, or African right, despite his high-sounding slogans and loud voice in defense of Arab, Islamic, and African causes. Like a terrified rat, the colonel is now stuck between the jaws of the heroic Libyan people, who have never stopped declaring their continuous rejection of his foolish policies. He is also facing a fierce struggle from the Chadian people, who continue to deal blows to the colonel's terrorist policy of dividing Chad. Despite this state of siege in which the colonel is suffocating, he has managed to find the time and ability to scream and to heap abuse at everyone. If the colonel believes that this irrational behavior is the only way to prove that his rejected regime is still intact, then he must not

forget the fact that the entire world is opposed to him and to the instability he spreads throughout the world.

We believe that Col al-Qadhdhafi knows more than anyone else that his days are numbered. He represents a rejected phenomenon that has lost all justification for existence. Because the colonel is living his last days, he has become like a wounded animal which tries to dig its claws into anything in its path. Therefore, it was not strange for the colonel to attack all the Arabs and the entire world, for he thinks that everyone lines up to fight against him because he is the divine messenger. Naturally, the colonel has focused his attention on and cast his anger against the Egyptian people and government, attacking any Arab state that even thinks of getting closer to Egypt, and accusing Egypt of selling out the Palestinian people to the United States and Israel.

Although we will try to forgive the colonel for all the abuse he has leveled against the Egyptian people and governm..., we would like to ask him personally about his accomplishments for the sake of the Palestinian people and his Arab homeland. Do these accomplishments not include his participation in a scheme against the Palestinian people in Lebanon and the shelling of the Palestinian refugee camps using his weapons and money? Did Al-Qadhdhafi forget his role in dividing the PLO and in deepening the gap between the various Palestinian factions, including the convocation of a recent series of meetings with the Palestinian groups that disagree with Yasir 'Arafat? Did he not transfer the headquarters of terrorist Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] to Tripoli after the latter was expelled from Damascus by the Syrians in their act of rapproachment with the United States? Did Al-Qadhdhafi forget the fact that he has given up his Arabism and Islam by siding with Iran in its war to destroy Iraq, bragging about his strategic ties with Ayatollah Khomeyni? Does he not recall that his seat at the OAU summits has been vacant for several years because the African leaders have exposed his true intentions against the African people?

The Arab world is tired of the continuing Al-Qadhdhafi phenomenon,and the Arabs have too many problems to take any more of the poisons caused by it. It is a shame that the heroic Libyan people are left alone to face Al-Qadhdhafi's terrorism machine, having to struggle against intellectual repression, murderous practices, and the squandering of wealth, as well as hunger and persecution. Col al-Qadhdhafi's regime is a stigma to the Libyan people. It is a disgrace to the entire Arab homeland, and it is our duty to wipe it out.

Presence of Forces in Chad, Sudan, Iraq Denied

NC080852 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 6 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] Cairo, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* Office — *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* has learned from Egyptian Foreign Ministry sources that Egypt has recently sent messages to its ambassadors in certain African countries confirming that no Egyptian forces are in Chad. These ambassadors have been asked to convey this information to the African officials in these countries.

These sources noted that during contacts with these countries, Egypt reasserted its stand with regard to the Chadian problem; namely, the need to respect Chad's sovereignty and independence and the need to enable the Chadian parties to find a peaceful solution. The reports claiming that Egyptian forces are in Chad are untrue in light of Egypt's declared opposition to the presence of foreign forces there. In addition, President Husni Mubarak has repeatedly affirmed Egypt's policy to never send forces outside its borders.

These sources also emphasized that there are no Egyptian forces in Iraq to assist it against Iran, nor are there any troops in Sudan. They stressed that Egyptian aid to these countries is confined to meeting their equipment needs. These sources did disclose, however, that Egypt does send advisers to these countries for training purposes only. The dispatch of Egyptian forces abroad requires the approval of the state's legislative institutions.

Israeli Air Raids on South Lebanon Condemned

NC071436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) — Egypt today strongly condemned the recent Israeli air raids on southern Lebanon. An official source in the Foreign Ministry said that Egypt strongly condemns such Israeli military attacks on Lebanon. The source emphasized that these operations obstruct the march toward peace at a time when there is a clear and unanimous international tendency to proceed in this direction.

The Egyptian source urged Israel to build bridges of trust with its neighbors in order to pave the way for holding an international conference to achieve a just peace. Israel's air raids on southern Lebanon the day before yesterday left 45 people dead and many others injured.

'Abd al-Majid Returns From Turkey, Discusses Talks

NC060542 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Cairo from Istanbul tonight following an official 5-day visit to Turkey.

In an arrival statement, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt welcomes the agreement among the UN Security Council members to send the UN secretary general to Iran in an attempt to gain that country's support for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for ending the Gulf war.

The foreign minister expressed hope that Iran would seriously cooperate with the UN secretary general and implement the UN Security Council resolution by accepting a cease-fire and by agreeing to begin negotiations that would lead to a just and honorable settlement among all the parties concerned.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid noted that during his visit to Turkey, he had delivered a message from President Husni Mubarak to Turkish President Kenan Evren who, in turn, had asked him to convey a verbal message to President Mubarak.

The Egyptian foreign minister also disclosed that he had conveyed a verbal message from President Mubarak to UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan during their meeting in Turkey. He said that Shaykh Zayid had asked him to deliver a message to President Husni Mubarak.

The deputy prime minister revealed that his talks with senior Turkish officials had dealt with a number of current international developments and various important issues. They had also discussed ways of promoting Egyptian-Turkish relations. He asserted that during those talks, it was noted that the views of both countries were similar on all issues.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid added that he had conveyed an invitation from the Egyptian prime minister to Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to visit Egypt. He said that the invitation had been accepted and that the visit would take place in December.

Briefs Mubarak on Visit

NC071227 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with President Husni Mubarak. He conveyed to him a message from Turkish President Kenan Evren.

Following the meeting, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that he had fully briefed President Mubarak on his recent talks in Turkey. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Meets With PLO Delegation 7 Sep

NC071622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with a PLO delegation which is currently visiting Egypt. The delegation includes Bishop Iliya Khuri, PLO Executive Committee member; Dr Ramzi Khuri, director of the office of PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat; and Zuhdi al-Qadrah, the Cairo representative of Fatah, the largest Palestinian organization.

Following the 45-minute meeting, Bishop Khuri made a statement in which he praised Egyptian-Palestinian relations, describing them as everlasting. Egypt is our pillar and the biggest Arab country. Preserving our relations with Egypt is tantamount to preserving ourselves, he added.

When asked about a possible visit to Egypt by Yasir 'Arafat or a possible meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Addis Ababa on the sidelines of celebrations to mark the establishment of the Ethiopianrepublic, Bishop Khuri replied: The relationship is friendly, and we hope that there will be more than a meeting.

Bishop Khuri described the Palestinian delegation's meeting with Dr 'Abd al-Majid as very good. The meeting confirms our feelings toward Egypt and its president, Husni Mubarak, he added. He noted that he had conveyed to Dr 'Abd al-Majid 'Arafat's greetings to President Mubarak and the dear Egyptian people, and he expressed gratitude for Egypt's efforts in support of the Palestinians.

Bishop Khuri pointed out that the two sides had discussed the latest developments in the international and regional spheres. We also discussed the international conference for peace in the Middle East, which everyone is talking about at present, as well as the Palestinian representation at such a conference, he added. Bishop Khuri stated: We Palestinians have made it clear at both an official and popular level that we want peace, not surrender; a just and comprehensive peace according to which the Palestinian people would obtain all their legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital. This state would consequently be connected to Jordan through a confederation, he added.

Bishop Khuri noted that during this meeting the Palestinian delegation had asked for Egypt's help in resuming coordination with the brothers in Jordan in preparation for an international conference. He affirmed that the Palestinian side is eager to resume such coordination. We also requested through Dr 'Abd al-Majid that Egypt alleviate the pressure on the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon, as it has always done in the past, he said, noting that more than 50 Palestinians were martyred in the latest Israeli raids on these camps.

Khuri Views Talks With Al-Baz

NC071649 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1412 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met today with a Palestinian delegation which is currently visiting Cairo. The delegation is being led by Bishop Iliya Khuri, member of the PLO Executive Committee, who stated after the meeting that discussion had focused on the international peace conference, the PLO's role in such a conference, and coordination with Jordan on this matter.

Bishop Khuri said that the Palestinians want a just peace in which they will see the realization of their rights. He affirmed that Egypt understands the situation and is a supporter of the Palestinians. He also said that he was confident that Egypt would not relinquish any of the legitimate Palestinian rights.

Bishop Khuri added that the delegation had listened to the views expressed by Dr al-Baz on these issues during the meeting.

When asked if it were possible for the international conference to be held under the present conditions of the Arab situation, Bishop Khuri expressed hope that all parties would succeed in holding the conference. He affirmed: "Without this conference, there can be no comprehensive and just peace."

Responding to a question about the prospects for reopening the PLO offices in Cairo, Bishop Khuri expressed hope that these offices would indeed be reopened. He said: "We are confident that President Husni Mubarak and his sagacious government will favorably consider this matter."

With regard to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, Bishop Khuri stated: "The Palestinians are looking forward to resuming this dialogue, and we have discussed this topic with Egyptian officials. We have not submitted specific proposals, but we have asked Egypt to help us to begin the dialogue again."

Bishop Khuri said that he is looking forward to meeting with President Husni Mubarak to convey to him the greetings sent from PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He indicated that 'Arafat might meet with President Mubarak in Addis Ababa during the celebrations to mark the proclamation of a republic in Ethiopia.

Concluding his statement, Bishop Khuri expresed hope that the PLO would be invited to attend the international conference on an equal footing with other delegations.

Economy Minister Departs for Greece 4 Sep

NC041256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (MENA) — Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, left Cairo today for Greece on a 4-day visit during which he will attend the opening of the Salonika International Fair. Egyptian products will be exhibited at the fair, which is scheduled to open on 6 September and last until 20 September.

Prior to his departure, Dr Mustafa said that his visit to Greece comes in response to an invitation from Greek Commerce Minister Panayiotis Roumeliotis. He added that he and the Greek minister will discuss ways of bolstering bilateral economic and commercial cooperation. The volume of Egyptian-Greek trade is steadily growing, Dr Mustafa noted. It reached a total of $254 million in 1986.

Prisoner Exchange Agreement Signed With Jordan

JN051711 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] Egypt and Jordan have signed an agreement to exchange prisoners. A source at the Jordanian Ministry of Justice has announced that in accordance with this agreement Jordan will soon hand over to the Egyptian authorities 200 Egyptian prisoners convicted with various crimes. Fifteen Jordanian citizens imprisoned in Egypt will be turned over to the Jordanian authorities.

Surveillance Reportedly Ordered on Israeli Tourists

JN071720 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (WAKH) — According to Western diplomatic sources, Egyptian security organs have issued strictly confidential orders to all personnel manning entry points throughout the country, particularly those in the Sinai. These orders indicate that a thorough search of Israeli tourists should be conducted when they enter Egypt.

These sources reported that the instructions include banning Israeli tourists from carrying special kinds of cameras or sensitive recording devices which might be used for listening and surveillance activities. The sources added that the instructions provide for maintaining a watch on Israeli tourists inside the country. The sources noted that Egyptian security organs had apprehended a number of Israeli tourists on charges of espionage and drug smuggling. The security organs then deported these tourists to Israel.

New Oil, Gas Finds Increase Total Reserves

NC051355 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA) — In the wake of recent finds, a source at the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation [EGPC] has announced that Egypt's national oil reserves now stand at 4.685 billion barrels, while natural gas reserves total 9 trillion cubic feet.

'Abd al-Hadi Qandil, minister of petroleum and mineral resources, today approved plans to begin production at 31 new oil fields and 8 natural gas fields over the next 5 years. However, Qandil made it clear that the operation of these new fields will not push Egypt's total production beyond the 870,000 barrel-a-day ceiling set for the duration of the second 5-year plan. Production from various fields, he added, will be coordinated to ensure that total production remains within this limit.

A source at the EGPC has affirmed that 78 new oil finds have been made over the last 5 years. Of these, 41 are now in operation, producing 305,000 barrels per day. The new discoveries, the source stated, add 1.385 billion barrels to the country's total reserves. Egypt's reserves of natural gas had amounted to 5 trillion cubic feet before the recent discoveries.

Chadian Attacks, French, U.S. Support Reported

Chadian Raid on Al-Sarah Reported

LD052037 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Once again imperialism pushes its agents to carry out aggression on the Great Jamahiriyah and creates, as a cover, false news reports. While the Arab Libyan Armed Forces have refrained from strafing Chadian territory since last 31 August, the 18th anniversary of the great Al-Fatih Revolution, the hostile forces have exploited this and have attacked 300 km inside Libyan territory, attempting to attack the civilian airport at Al-Sarah, used for transportation between the Great Jamahiriyah and Africa.

The Great Jamahiriyah will exercise the right to self-defense under the UN Charter, Article 51.

Faced with this imperialist aggression, the second in less than 1 month, we again question the justification of the French forces' presence in Chad. It can only be to carry out aggression against the Arab Libyan people. If so, we also ask why does France want to launch aggression against the Libyan Arab people? We ask this of the French people and of their National Assembly representatives.

We have no alternative but to destroy aggression and smash its source when it is clear that imperialism is determined to attack the Jamahiriyah. The real issue is colonial invasion, not a border conflict as they claim.

Armed Forces Command Statement

LD061220 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Here is a statement by the General Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces:

Imperialist and mercenary forces yesterday attacked the civilian airport at Al-Sarah, inside Libyan territory. The attack was crushed and totally destroyed. More forces were sent to attack the same airport today, but they too were crushed and annihilated.

The Libyan Arab people are called upon to carry arms and to confront imperialism and be determined to defeat it. We are confident that we will defeat it and its agents and that Chad will be liberated despite imperialism and its agents.

We call upon African youth to join the world popular revolutionary base in the Great Jamahiriyah to clear Africa of the bases of imperialism and its agents.

The Arab nation should take a serious stand on the side of the Great Jamahiriyah now that imperialist ambitions toward the Arab nation everywhere have become clear. The Arab nation has no alternative but to declare its political and military unity and to utilize all of its huge economic resources to carry out the proposal put forward by the brother commander of the revolution in his historic speech on the 18th anniversary of the great 1 September revolution, because the ambitions against the Arab homeland do not permit the wasting of any more time before immediate political Arab unity is established.

Foreign Liaison Committee Statement

LD061327 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has issued the following statement:

1. The dimensions of the imperialist plots have now become clear. And Chad, in accordance with these plots, has become a base for aggression against Libya. The matter no longer concerns any alleged border dispute between Libya and Chad; it is now organized aggression operated, financed and planned by the United States and France, in which agent 'Ibri [play on the name Habre] assumes the role of the implementing tool.

2. Libya is defending its territory and fighting inside its borders. As proved by events, the confrontation is now between imperialism and the agent force tied to it on the one hand, and the forces of liberation and the African peoples on the other hand.

3. It is the responsibility of Africa to define its position, toward the presence of foreign forces in Chad and to help in expelling the foreign presence. Otherwise, the consequences of the imperialist presence will gravely affect not only the Great Jamahiriyah but will also threaten the security of neighboring countries and of the entire region. Africa is capable of solving its own problems relying on its willpower and its own abilities without any interference from imperialism.

4. The facts about the internationalization of the conflict in Chad, to which the Great Jamahiriyah has drawn attention on more than one occasion, have now been confirmed. The United States has been arming the agent 'Ibri and has provided him with hardware and experts in order to launch his aggression against the territory of the Great Jamahiriyah. France has provided him with support and protection in joint coordination and planning within the framework of a strategy of the distribution of roles.

5. The Great Jamahiriyah wishes to affirm its principled and declared stand that it is fighting inside its own international border and the aggression of 8 August 1987 and the aggression at Al-Sarah yesterday are aggressions against Libyan territories.

Out of its legitimate right of self-defense and adherence to its principled stand, the Great Jamahiriyah fights the aggressor and faces up to aggression until it has been crushed at the source.

The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah asks the popular masses in Africa, the liberation forces in Africa, and the forces anxious to preserve peace and stability in the continent to shoulder their responsibilities in exposing the plans of the U.S., French, and reactionary aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah and highlight the dangers inherent in the imperialist foreign presence in Africa as a source for this aggression.

Foreign Liaison Message to OAU, UN
LD061337 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] The People Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison yesterday evening sent a message to the OAU and to the UN Security Council informing them of the imperialist aggression by agent Habre's forces on Al-Sarah airport inside Libyan Arab territory. The airport is used for communication between the Great Jamahiriyah and Africa.

French Ambassador Summoned
LD061553 Tripoli JANA in English 1442 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 6, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The People's Committee for the People's Foreign Liaison Bureau this morning summoned the French ambassador to Great Jamahiriyah and informed him that agent Habre is conducting aggression against Great Jamahiriyah with French training and backing and French protection inside Chad.

Consequently France shoulders the direct responsibility for the aggression against the Libyan Arab lands and the escalation of tension in the region.

U.S. Support for Habre Confirmed
LD061611 Tripoli JANA in English 1450 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Washington, Al-Fatih [September] 6, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The U.S. Administration confirmed its continuous support to its puppet Habre so as to enable him to continue with the imperialist aggression against Great Jamahiriyah.

A spokesman for the American Department of State declared yesterday that talks were still going on regarding further assistance to Habre.

The *Associated Press* reported that America is the biggest suppliers of arms to the bandits of Ndjamena.

France, U.S. Asked To Withdraw
LD061621 Tripoli JANA in English 1512 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 6, *Jamahirya News Agency* — The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah requested France and the United States of America to withdraw their forces from Chad.

Great Jamahiriyah held both France and America responsible for the consequences of the aggression against Great Jamahiriyah.

USSR Asked To Request U.S. Withdrawal
LD061636 Tripoli JANA in English 1446 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 6, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The ambassador of the USSR to Great Jamahiriyah was requested to request America to withdraw from Chad and immediately stop military supplies to it considering that America is involved in the aggression launched on the Libyan Arab People against the Libyan Arab lands.

Conflict Termed 'Imperialist Invasion'
NC061720 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Once again imperialism is inciting its agents to commit aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah, using as an excuse a number of false reports. At a time when the Libyan Armed Forces were complying with a decision to halt bombardment of Chadian territory as of 31 Hannibal — August — in view of the 18th anniversary of the great 1 September revolution, hostile forces exploited the situation. They attacked 300-km deep into Libyan territory in an attempt to destroy the civilian airport of Al-Sarah, which is used for communications between the Great Jamahiriyah and Africa.

The Great Jamahiriyah will exercise its right to self-defense according to Article 51 of the UN Charter. In view of this imperialist attack against us — the second in less than a month — we again seek to know the justification for the presence of French forces in Chad. The goal of this presence seems to be to commit aggression against the Libyan Arab people. If this is the aim, we ask: What does France seek to gain from the Libyan people by launching this act of aggression? We address this question to the French people and their representatives in the National Assembly.

For our part, our only choice is to crush the aggression and destroy its source, since it has now become clear that there is [word indistinct] by imperialism to launch an aggression against the Jamahiriyah and that the question [words indistinct] is an imperialist invasion, not a border dispute, as they claim.

JANA Commentary on U.S. Support
LD061906 Tripoli JANA in English 1825 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih [September] 6, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The *Associated Press* released a statement by the spokesman of the American Department of State Charles Redman in which he asserted that America was continuing in its contacts with Chad to assist it in its war against Libya.

The political editor of JANA commented on that. He said "We have already warned of the dangers of turning Chad into an imperialist base threatening the stability of neighbouring countries... The dimensions of the imperialist plot have, now, become clear as Chad has been effectively transformed into a base for launching aggression against Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Sudan and tomorrow this aggression will be extended to other African countries. The matter is no longer linked to the claimed border dispute with Libya, but it is a delibrate and organized aggression against the people of Great Jamahiriyah funded by and planned for and backed by the American Administration and the French Government in which agent Habre plays the role of

the executor of imperialist policies. [no closing quotation mark as received]

The editor said that the involvement of the American Administration in the aggression against the people of Great Jamahiriyah through puppet Habre constitutes a serious precedent in international relations and a violation of its international obligations as a permanent member of the Security Council who is supposed to work for the maintenance of international peace and security instead of escalating acute tension and encouraging aggression by all means.

The editor added "we hold the French and American Governments responsible for the internationalization of the dispute in the region and the hindrance of peace efforts after it became clear to world public opinion that the dispute was internationalized as America is arming and supplying equipment to puppet Habre [words indistinct] give him the personnel to launch aggression against the territory of Great Jamahiriyah and France, provide him with protection and backing in a joint coordination and planning within the strategy of division of roles. The intensive contacts between security and defence officials in Washington and Paris before the aggression on our southern borders and the residence [as received] of the French defense minister in Washington for two weeks stand as evidence of this coordination.

The editor pointed out that the events practically exposed the French claim that its military presence in Chad was to maintain the security of Chadian lands. For the forces of puppet Habre are conducting, now, aggression inside the Libyan Arab lands and violates the lands of neighbouring countries to Chad.

These ridicule the French claims of not knowing anything of the said aggressions and also ridicule French denial of involvement with America in a plan of aggression.

The editor concluded his commentary by warning the French public opinion to be aware that it is not in the interest of France to be hostile to the Arab nation and subject its interests in the Arab homeland to danger affirming that the continuation of the French Government backing for the mutineers in Chad and pushing them to conduct aggression against Great Jamahiriyah will have immense repercussions not only to Arab-French relations but to French relations with the African Continent and its peoples.

'Successful' Raid on Ndjamena

LD071048 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1025 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Sep (JANA) — Libyan Arab Air Force planes at dawn today carried out a successful raid on Abeche military base and Ndjamena airport. Ndjamena airport had been completely transformed into a military base where it received U.S. and Israeli military supplies.

French aircraft and French and U.S. missiles, manned by Americans and French, took part in the attempt to thwart the attack by our planes. Our planes were able to make precise hits on their designated targets.

One of our planes was hit.

Civilian Aircraft Warned

LD071125 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Libyan Arab Air Force has warned civilian aircraft not to approach or enter Chadian airspace as they will be exposed to danger. It also urged foreign embassies and civilians to leave Ndjamena at once out of concern for their safety.

Attack on Al-Sarah Condemned

LD071345 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1145 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Sep (JANA) — The Civil Aviation Authority in the Great Jamahiriyah has sent a message to the International Civil Aviation Organization regarding the unjust attack carried out by the agent 'Ibri [word play for Habre] forces on Al-Sarah civilian airport, which said:

We regret to inform you that Al-Sarah civilian airport, situated 200 km inside the Great Jamahiriyah's southern border, was subjected to a savage, barbaric attack, and the airport's facilities, provided for the service of civil aviation, were greatly damaged.

Civil aviation facilities in the Great Jamahiriyah have been subjected to an unjust attack for the second time. The barbaric attack on Tripoli and [words indistinct] international airports on 15 April 1986 failed to achieve its objective. Now the Jamahiriyah's southern territories are being subjected to an attack on the Al-Sarah civilian airport, but this time the attacks are veiled behind the cover of the agents of old and new international imperialism.

We very strongly condemn this unjust attack on the peaceful people of the Great Jamahiriyah [words indistinct]. We believe that this kind of unjust attack completely contradicts the international principles affirmed by the international civil aviation accord, an accord that stipulates cooperation among peoples should be developed — cooperation, moreover, that world peace depends on. At the same time, we regard this attack as an aggression against the sovereignty of the Great Jamahiriyah's airspace.

French Envoy Summoned for Protest

LD071251 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] This morning, the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned the French ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah and submitted to him a strongly worded protest against France's downing of a Libyan plane.

The ambassador was reminded that the Great Jamahiriyah had previously affirmed its unwavering position that it has no ambitions inside Chadian territory and that the military activities it is undertaking are within the framework of the exercise of its

right of self-defense to repulse aggression on its territories by all means, including the chasing of the aggressor forces and destroying them and the military bases from which aggression is launched against the territory of the Great Jamahiriyah.

Belgian Envoy Summoned for Protest

LD071732 Tripoli JANA in English 1700 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, September 9, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Today the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau summoned the Belgian ambassador and handed him a protest note against the U.S.A. involvement in the aggression carried out by agent 'Ibri [Habre] against Libyan Arab territories by providing arms, war ammunition, "Red-Eye" and "Stinger" missiles.

The People's Committee for Foreign Liaison Bureau held the U.S. Administration responsible for such acts of aggression which lead to escalating tension and the deterioration of the situation in the region.

JANA on French-U.S. 'Escalation'

LD081634 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Sep (JANA) — The JANA political editor has commented on the French-U.S. military escalation in Chad, and said: Developments over the past 24 hours in Chad have confirmed in a way that leaves no room for doubt that Chad has been transformed, according to military and political logic, into a NATO military base controlled by U.S. and French forces.

It is important to emphasize here that the firing of a U.S. missile by the French forces stationed in Ndjamena in a bid to resist an attack by our aircraft, which were in pursuit of the source of aggression on the Libyan Arab southern border, was in fact a joint French-U.S. military operation launched from Chadian territory. When France officially announces through its Defense Ministry that it has fired missiles from Ndjamena, it is behaving as though it were on French territory and the aircraft had aimed at targets inside French borders.

The editor expalined that these developments could only be described as dangerous. Imperialist forces are no longer concealing the fact of their presence in Chad and have gone further than that by openly announcing that they have entered the phase of aggressive action and that Chad is nothing but a base for the launching action. This categorically confirms the credibility of what we have repeatedly drawn attention to in the Great Jamahiriyah: that Chad has been completely transformed into an imperialist base and a fertile ground for French, U.S., and a mixture of mercenary forces through which plots against revolutionary progressive countries on the African Continent are being implemented. The imperialists have begun their aggressive scheme starting with the Great Jamahiriyah.

The political editor stressed that this French-U.S. military escalation could not be understood except as an open admission before the world that France and the United States, as represented by their forces in Chad, are leading the aggression against the Great Jamahiriyah and violating the sanctity of its southern border. The question in fact is not a border conflict, as they want to portray it, but a planned invasion operation aimed at the Jamahiriyah. Therefore, France and the U.S. Administration are responsible for the aggression against the Arab people and will bear the dire consequences which will result from this situation; whether in regard to Chad or the region as a whole.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets People's Congress Secretariat

LD071350 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1150 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Sep (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution had a meeting with the Secretariat of the General People's Congress and secretaries of the municipalities' people's congresses.

Al-Mahdi Reportedly To Meet Ethiopian Leader

JN061123 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA) — *Al-Ayyam* reports that in press statements yesterday Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced his intention to meet Ethiopia's chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council Mengistu Haile Mariam soon to discuss problems between the two countries. The paper adds that the prime minsiter declined to give details about the place and date of the meeting and said only that they will be announced later.

Industry Minister Mubarak al-Fadil visited the Ethiopian capital last week and handed a message from the prime minister to the Ethiopian leader.

Foreign Ministry Denies Presence of Libyan Forces

JN061518 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry has denied reports circulating today regarding the Chadian Government protesting the presence of Libyan forces inside Sudan.

The denial came in a statement made by Mirghani Sulayman, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry, following his meeting with the Chadian ambassador in Khartoum at noon today. The Sudanese Armed Forces consider the presence of any foreign forces inside the country's borders to be an act of aggression, the under secretary said. If the Chadian Government has information on the presence of Libyan forces in Sudan, it must specify their number and location, he added.

Sulayman said that he met with the Chadian ambassador to discuss bilateral ties.

Meanwhile, the Chadian ambassador said following the meeting that he knew of no Sudanese protest by Chad to Sudan, and that his meeting with the under secretary was to discuss bilateral ties. He said that he will hold a news conference at noon tomorrow.

Libyan Envoy Reiterates Denial

JN071040 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 7 (SUNA) — The Libyan Ambassador to Sudan Jum'ah al-Fazzani has denied that his country has any troops in the Sudan intended for use against Chad, the daily English paper *Sudan Times* reported here today. Referring to reports that Libya has more than three thousand troops inside Sudanese territories poised for an attack on Chad, Al-Fazzani said this was malicious propaganda intended to undermine relations between the three countries Sudan, Chad and Libya. He pointed out that there was absolutely no truth to these stories saying that the reports were intended to undermine Sudan's mediation efforts which have been welcomed by both Chad and Libya. The ambassador accused the United States and France of fabricating these stories, saying that the propaganda was being orchestrated to prepare an imperialist attack on Libya. Al-Fazzani said the Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi who is fully aware of the facts from his own sources knows that there are no Libyan troops in the Sudan. The Chadian Government has recently said that Libyan troops [are] being prepared to attack Chad from western Sudan.

Taj al-Din Visit to Libya Confirms Crude Oil Supply

JN081038 Khartoum SUNA in English 1014 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sep 8 (SUNA) — Libya will supply Sudan with crude oil in accordance with the agreement reached between the two countries last March, the daily *Al-Ayyam* issued here today reported.

The Libyan supply to the country with crude oil was confirmed during the last week visit of State Council Member Hasan Taj al-Din to Libya, the daily added.

A Libyan official at Oil Department has informed Sudan Ambassador to Libya 'Abd al-Majid Bashir al-Ahmadi last Monday on the consent of Libyan leadership to supply Sudan with its needs of petroleum.

Minister of Energy Dr. Adam Musa Madibu is expected to lead a high level delegation to Libya within the coming few days to discuss the whole matter with officials there.

Consultations Continue To Form Coalition Government

Al-Mahdi Comments on Timetable

JN071100 Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 7 (SUNA) — Prime Minister and leader of Al-Ummah Party al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced that the two major parties Al-Ummah, and "DUP" has agreed to fix a new date for forming the new government.

Al-Mahdi told the daily *Al-Ayam* published here today that the two parties fixed the mid of current month as the date for forming the new government and that the current government will continue till that date.

Al-Mahdi pointed that consultations are still under way between the two parties and other parties to reach agreement on shape of the new government.

The two parties have fixed today 7th September as the date for the formation of a new government but they reached no agreement on the shape of the government either to be a national or a coalition one.

Premier Postpones Press Conference

JN071430 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA) — The press conference which Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi was scheduled to hold this morning on the current political situation has been postponed until tomorrow morning, 8 September.

The press conference has been postponed because some political aspects are incomplete. This situation is in light of the consultations to form a new government following the recent dissolution of the coalition between the Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party.

Al-Ummah, DUP Issue Communique

JN071923 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1728 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA) — The two ruling parties, the Al-Ummah Party and the Democratic Unionist Party [DUP], have stressed their commitment to continue their efforts to establish a national government comprised of Sudanese political figures. The two parties also agreed to form a joint committee to offer a unified proposal to all the political figures on the condition that consultations end in 2 weeks.

This came in a communique issued by the two parties here today. The communique says that the current National Unity Government has adopted a national policy in dealing with the country's problems. However, the communique said that there is a need to mobilize the national energies to unify the political will. This need has prompted the two parties to adopt the idea of a national government.

As a result, the communique says, there have been contacts and consultations which affirm that the opposition and neutral parties support this idea. However, the communique adds that other parties have expressed contradictory sentiments and reservations.

The communique also said that the alliance between the two large parties had been established on a historical bases. These bases were founded through cooperation during the resistance against the May regime's repression. They were also founded by the charters of the uprising, by the charter of the National Unity Government, and by the memorandum of understanding between the two parties.

The two parties affirmed that the alliance between them is a national duty dictated by the need to create a second base for national unity. This duty is also dictated by the work to build the homeland and to please its inhabitants under the aegis of social freedom and national dignity. On the other hand, the two parties stressed the need to continue their cooperation and to resolve the causes of the differences which emerged between them. And in order to prevent a power vacuum in the state bodies, it has been decided that the two parties will support the existing government with all their parliamentary and popular weight.

The two parties emphasized the continuity of consultations as well as making the necessary amendments in light of the results of these consultations. They proposed to do so using the required decisiveness and accuracy so that the aspired reforms will be made without exposing the country to shakes and also without undermining the general performance. This will ensure moving from one state to another while taking the public interest into consideration.

Interior Minister Denies Meeting With Garang

JN071558 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1446 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA) — Sayyid Ahmad al-Husayn, interior minister and head of the Sudanese delegation to the Sudanese-Ugandan joint ministerial committee, has affirmed that the talks between the two sides were successful and resulted in several signed agreements. In a statement after his return from Kampala yesterday, he pointed out that the agreements covered a trade exchange limited to $5 million. The two sides also reached an agreement on security and another one on extradition. They also signed an agreement on customs.

The interior minister said that relations between Sudan and Uganda are distinguished and strong. He stated that Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni praised these relations and the Sudanese people. He also denied recent reports that he met with John Garang in Uganda. He explained that during his 2-hour meeting with Ugandan President Museveni, he told him that Colonel John Garang was in Uganda at his invitation. Museveni further told him that the invitation came within the framework of his current mediation between Garang's movement and the Sudanese Government. Museveni added that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had requested the mediation during their meeting in Khartoum at a conference held there last June by the leaders of the eastern and central African countries. The interior minister also said that he met with the southern Sudanese parties in Uganda and that they are still continuing their talks.

SPLA Reports Capture of Mayom in Upper Nile 2 Sep

EA051530 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The town of Mayom in western Upper Nile has been captured by combined SPLA forces of Tahrir, Wolf, and (Korium) task force under the overall command of Major Dr Riak Machar Teng, alternate member of SPLM/SPLA Political /Military High Command and zonal commander of western Upper Nile on 2d September 1987 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

The town of Mayom fell after a long siege by the SPLA forces of western Upper Nile zonal command. A correspondent says that the enemy suffered heavy casualties in both men and material.

The battle which led to the fall of Mayom began on 21st August, 1987, followed by another fierce attack on 22d of the same month by SPLA forces under the overall command of Maj Dr Riak Machar Teng.

The remnants of the enemy who finally fled the town of Mayom on 2d September 1987 left behind the following military vehicles and ammunition and other essentials: one tank number 2149135; one APC number 2540; one Magirus number KM 320448; one (Commer) lorry number KM 41408; one Landrover number K 18120; and one scooter motor number K/2896, all in good working condition. [passage omitted]

Governor Denies Report

JN061616 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA) — Manasa Majuk, governor of the Upper Nile region, has denied claims broadcast by John Garang's movement that it captured the town of Mayom, located southwest of Bentiu, capital of Al-Wahdah Province in the region. He said here today that some Garang supporters tried over the past few days to storm the city. But, he said, the Armed Forces, in cooperation with Anya Nya II forces, beat back the attackers, inflicting heavy casualties on them.

The governor emphasized that the air action on the Sudanese-Ethiopian border will not recur. We know that the Garang forces, encumbered by hunger and disease, are in no position to seize any city, and that foreign forces fought the key part of the air battle. Majuk said that the regional government is in full control of the region's cities and their outskirts, and security has been good on the whole. The situation is 70 percent better than it was last year, he added.

The governor of the northern region urged the Sudanese people to pay no attention to rumors and lies disseminated by the Garang radio station. These reports are intended to create confusion and spread panic among the ordinary people, he added. The governor appealed to Garang to respond to the government's peace overtures. He declared that the war will not solve the country's problems. He added that its continuation will only worsen the living conditions of the people in the south, not to mention human and material losses. He indicated that next Thursday is the deadline for the civil servants now present in Khartoum to return to their jobs. The situation now allows their return and those who fail to do so will have to suffer the consequences, said the governor.

Minister Says Over 40 Political Detainees Released

JN051036 Khartoum SUNA in English 1005 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, Sep. 5, SUNA — The ministerial committee charged to implement the state of emergency regulations has decided to free more than forty political detainees who were alleged to have ploted against the regime in the country.

Those freed have been warned against carrying any activity which could undermine democracy in the Sudan, Culture and Information Minister Dr. Ma'mun Sanadah, who announced the move, said in a statement here last Thursday.

The minister pinpointed that those who were detained had been carrying [out] activities, writing slogans and inciting unrest against the democratic system, and calling for the return of the ousted regime of Numayri, who was deposed in April 1985 following sixteen years of autocratic rule in the Sudan.

Press reports here said more than forty political detainees, identified as May regime perpetrators have been detained over the past months without chargers or trial.

Claiming that their constitutional rights and freedoms have been violated, the detainees have written protest memoranda to the constitutional court, chairman and members of the Council of State and the prime minister but to no avail, according to a report by the English daily *Sudan Times*, today.

Meanwhile the Sudanese bar association has today denounced the implementation of the state of emergency regulations.

The bar chairman has described the state of emergency being implemented in the Sudan as a "violation to the constitutional rights of citizens."

BAHRAIN

Council of Ministers Denounces Attacks on Kuwait

JN061153 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Manama, 6 Sep (WAKH) — The Bahraini Council of Ministers has expressed regret over and denuciation of the recent attacks on Kuwait.

The Council affirmed that these acts are an escalation of the situation at a time when international efforts are under way to find a speedy solution to the Iraq-Iran war and restore peace and stability to this vital area, which contributes toward world progress and prosperity.

This came during the Bahraini Council of Ministers session here today under His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister, during which the situation in the Arab Gulf area was discussed.

The Council wished Kuwait further stability and progress.

Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for Council of Ministers affairs, stated that the Council also discussed its agenda and approved Bahrain's attending a number of conferences abroad and Bahrain's hosting of a number of seminars.

KUWAIT

Iranian Charge Summoned; 5 Diplomats To Be Expelled

LD051707 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1645 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, 5 Sep (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti foreign minister today, Saturday, 5 September, summoned the Iranian charge d'affaires, Mohammad Hoseyn Forouhi. He was met by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin who delivered to him an official memorandum under which five diplomats of the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait were declared nongrata.

KUNA has learned that the five diplomats were given 1 week from this date to leave the country.

Official Source on Expulsion

LD071322 Kuwait KUNA in English 1150 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 7 (KUNA) — An official source in the Foreign Ministry Monday said that Kuwait's step in expelling five Iranian diplomats is based on Kuwait's right as a sovereign state. The measure was guaranteed by all international norms, doctrines and agreements, the source added. The source told KUNA that Kuwait completely respects such agreements.

He was commenting on statements by Iranian Premier Mir Hoseyn Musavi following a cabinet meeting yesterday in which he described the Kuwaiti measure as a great mistake and a trivial political act. The source wondered if the Kuwaiti step was trivial, according to the Iranian premier's description, what can we describe the storming, looting, occupying and burning of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran under the nose of Iranian authorities and the arrest of Kuwaiti diplomats who are enjoying full diplomatic status and immunity.

Ouster Termed 'Suitable Option'

LD052051 Kuwait KUNA in English 1947 GMT 5 Sep 87

[By the political analyst]

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 5 (KUNA) — Kuwait's decision today to expel five out of the seven Iranian diplomats working in the Iranian Embassy here represented the most "suitable option" among other limited choices that faced the Kuwaiti-Iranian relations lately.

Iran has insisted recently on escalating tension in its relations with Kuwait without any acceptable or legitimate justifications, except that Kuwait had wished, and still do, an end to the drain of Arab Islamic blood...so that it won't continue flowing along an abnormal channel.

Iran has adamantly made Kuwait, in recent months, a direct goal of repeated aggressions that cover various targets and installations. For once, it hits ships in the Arabian Gulf, the latest such incident was the attack against the container vessel *Jabal 'Ali*.

In another, it storms and burns the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran, threatens lives of diplomats working there, mistreats representatives of Kuwait and denies them the right of practicing their jobs...The Kuwaiti Embassy there is still occupied by Iranian elements, thus clearly violating all international norms and doctrines.

Furthermore, Iran launched indiscriminate shelling of Kuwaiti territory threatening safety of individuals and installations...including the missile that was fired at dawn Friday on southern coasts of Kuwait.

In addition to a long list of other aggressive operations that Kuwait did not wish to announce, emanating from the sense of responsibility of its officials and its wise leadership toward the prevailing cricumstances and the current sensitive stage that the region is passing through, and in order to support and facilitate the U.N. Security Council's efforts and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's mission in trying to convince Iran to accept the Security Council Resolution 598. [sentence as received]

Iran's hysterical behavior perplexes the international community which fails to explain its motives.

The bitter hostility practiced by Iran against Kuwait can be only explained that the regime in Iran is passing through difficult internal circumstances that compel it to fabricate crises and problems with neighbors and continue a senseless war with Iraq in a bid to overcome such circumstances, a matter which completely contradicts international norms and doctrines and good neighborly relations.

As regards Kuwait's incessant and faithful efforts to end this destructive war...well it's her destiny...that which it cannot get rid of...Kuwait is accustomed, since its independence and in conformity with its people's nature, to love benevolence and to spend dearly for the spread of cooperation and peace among world peoples.

What a difference between the two.

Government Reaction to Recent Iranian 'Aggression'

Appeal for UN Measures

LD050754 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0704 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] New York, 5 Sep (KUNA) — Kuwait asked UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar today "after urgent and appropriate consultations as he sees fit, to take measures dictated by his position to prevent Iran from continuing its aggression against Kuwait."

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, informed the UN secretary general in an official memorandum sent today that "on Friday, at 0400 Kuwaiti local time, Iran launched a missile on some of the populated areas and industrial installations in the south of Kuwait. The resultant explosion caused damage to buildings and installations."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: "I have to mention here that Iran's aggression against Kuwaiti soil with this missile, and its recent aggression against the Kuwaiti tanker *Jabal 'Ali* do not represent all the aggressions Iran has committed against our country during the past week."

Shaykh Sabah indicated to Perez de Cuellar that "Kuwait has ignored some of the Iranian attacks that occurred during this period and did not inform the United Nations about them, because it is aware of the acuteness and sensitivity of this period in time, and it wants to contribute to facilitating the job of the UN Security Council and of Mr Perez de Cuellar's mission during this period."

Shaykh Sabah emphasized that "Kuwait still hopes that Iran will respond to international will and will declare its acceptance of UN Resolution 598."

However, he warned that "at the same time we are aware that Iran's dangerous and hostile acts against Kuwait might exacerbate the already acute situation in the region and torpedo the efforts being made to establish peace in this region, destroying any immediate chance of a solution, which is in line with international will represented in this resolution."

He added that "while reiterating our awareness of the sensitivity and acuteness of this phase, and out of our commitment to the security and safety of our country, we expect Your Excellency to pursue suitable and urgent negotiations as you see necessary with the Security Council and to take measures dictated by your responsibility to prevent Iran from pursuing its hostilities against Kuwait."

UN Envoys Summoned

LD051436 Kuwait KUNA in English 1432 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 5 (KUNA) — The Foreign Ministry today summoned the ambassadors of the five permanent Security Council member states for a briefing on the latest Iranian violations, especially the missile that was fired on residential and industrial areas south of Kuwait Friday Sept 4. The ambassadors were given a briefing by the Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, who pointed out that Kuwait may have let go [word indistinct] "serious practices" by Iran on land [word indistinct] of earnestness to allow endeavors to end the Gulf war, undertaken by U.N. secretary general, to succeed.

Al-Shahin also stressed to the envoys that Kuwait finds it imperative to inform the Security Council member states and draw world attention to such "abnormal practices" that are unprecedented in international affairs, particularly when it comes to firing at random a rocket on a state that is not party to the dispute.

KUNA has learned that Al-Shahin informed the ambassadors at the meeting of "certain material evidence" proving the rocket incident.

Cabinet Condemns 'Aggressive Acts'

LD061753 Kuwait KUNA in English 1342 GMT 6 Sep 87

[By Hassan Sayagh]

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 6 (KUNA) — The cabinet of Kuwait today expressed firm rejection and condemnation to the repeated Iranian aggressive acts against Kuwait. The cabinet maintained that the Iranian actions against Kuwait represent the most dangerous forms of escalation in the Gulf war.

The cabinet called on the Security Council to hasten and embark on emergency measures to stop Iran from continuing its aggression.

The position of the Kuwait cabinet was spelled out by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, following a cabinet meeting this morning that was presided over by H.H. Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah.

Al-Rashid said the cabinet was briefed by Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah on the missile that landed on a residential and industrial area on the southern coast of Kuwait last Friday.

The minister said investigation determined that the missile was of Chinese make with a range of 80-100 miles.

It was also revealed, the minister added, that Iran fired the missile, in conformity with reports from observation points on Faylakah and Bubiyan Islands.

Shaykh Salim told the cabinet the missile was targeting residential, petroleum and industrial installations.

The explosion of the missile, he went on, resulted in damages to buildings and to industrial establishments.

Al-Rashid told newsmen the cabinet reviewed the outcome of endeavors and contacts that are presently underway on various levels with a view to consolidate efforts aimed at achieving peace in the Gulf region.

Within that context, noted Al-Rashid, the Council of Ministers was informed on the scheduled visit to Moscow of Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who will be leading a delegation representing the Arab League seven-nation committee entrusted with helping to find a settlement to the Gulf war.

Shaykh Sabah will brief Soviet officials with the latest serious developments in the Gulf region and its reflection on world security and peace and the necessary steps that should be adopted in order to intensify efforts to implement Security Council Resolution 598, calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, in conformity with Arab League Council resolutions passed in Tunisia last month.

The Kuwaiti cabinet also welcomed the forthcoming visit of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to the region within the moves aimed at getting the Security Council resolution implemented, Al-Rashid pointed out. Al-Rashid ruled out the possibility of a visit by Perez de Cuellar to any of the Gulf member states following his talks in Tehran and Baghdad that will be concluded by the end of this week.

The minister told newsmen that joint Arab action has become a pressing issue at that point so as to stop the assaults the Arab nation is exposed to. Al-Rashid stressed that united Arab action will establish an international trend that will have an effective impact in supporting Arab causes.

Referring to the fires that broke out on the school of science campus earlier this week, Al-Rashid said such incidents are a disgrace once occurring on an educational establishment. However, he expressed hope that these incidents are not perpetuated. Al-Rashid said the Minister of Education 'Abdallah al-Nuri submitted a detailed report on the university fire which, he added, caused material losses but repairs have started to allow classes to go uninterrupted.

Minister of Interior Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad as well notified the ministers of the progress of the investigation that is taking place to determine the cause of the fire.

In reply to a question, the minister said the decision to expel five Iranian diplomats emanates from the sovereign rights of the state. He said the United Nations, the Arab League and other international bodies were notified of the Kuwaiti decision.

Results of the visits undertaken by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud al-'Usaymi to Saudi Arabia and Minister of Information Shaykh Nasir al-Ahmad's African tour, were also presented to the cabinet, Al-Rashid said.

Al-Sabah Cables Arab League

LD071136 Kuwait KUNA in English 1052 GMT 7 Sep 87

[By Nasim Mattar]

[Text] Tunis, Sept 7 (KUNA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi Monday commented on the Iranian recent missile attack on Kuwaiti territories by saying, "this operation comes under the series of other actions carried out by Iran to threaten the security in the Gulf region." He added in a statement to KUNA here that the Arab League has condemned this Iranian action and considered it "a dangerous escalation" of the tension in the Gulf region, which is "caused by the Iranian practices."

Klibi called on the U.N. Security Council and the Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who will visit Tehran soon, to carry out a serious and immediate action that convinces the Iranian Government to respect the sovereignty and security of Kuwait.

On the other hand Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah said Iran is still continuing its aggressive actions against Kuwaiti ships and territories, violating all international laws and ignoring international resolutions including the Arab League Council's resolution adopted during its recent extraordinary session. He added, in a cable sent to Klibi today and distributed to all Arab League member countries that Kuwait, which is keen to encourage all international efforts and initiatives taken to halt the Iraqi- Iranian war including the Arab League's efforts, did not announce all the Iranian attacks against Kuwaiti territories during the past few days.

Iran has launched a missile against residential and industrial areas on the southern coast of Kuwait last Friday, September 4.

Shaykh al-Sabah confirmed that Iran attacked Kuwaiti territories with a Chinese-made Silkworm missile. The Kuwaiti diplomat concluded that our responsibility toward our country and our national duty urge us to inform you and the foreign ministers of the member countries on these dangerous developments which led to the escalation of tension in the region.

Third Missile Reportedly Explodes on Coast 5 Sep

JN051614 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Iran apparently fired another missile against Kuwait at dawn today. The missile, the third in 4 days, exploded on the Kuwaiti coast.

Yesterday, the Kuwaiti authorities reported the fall of a missile on Kuwaiti territory and officially accused Iran of firing it. Kuwait has also protested to the United Nations over this incident.

Libyan Official Arrives on Brief Visit

LD051835 Kuwait KUNA in English 1742 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 5 (KUNA) — Libyan Foreign Minister [title as received] Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi arrived here tonight on a short visit on his way to Baghdad for an official visit to Iraq.

In a statement to reporters Al-Talhi called, on arrival, for collective Arab efforts to confront the dangers and challenges facing the Arab nation.

He reiterated the Libyan call for an end to the Iraq-Iran war and to face all dangers threatening the Arab lands.

The Libyan top official refused to give a direct answer on the Libyan stand toward the possibility of severing relations with Iran in case Tehran continued its rejection to the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

On his visit to Iraq and the future of the Libyan-Iraqi relations, Al-Talhi said "Libya and Iraq are two sisterly Arab countries and within that context my visit to Baghdad in the coming two days is for consultations with the brothers in all issues of interest to us."

He expressed happiness for visiting Kuwait and said this visit will provide him with the chance to consult with the brothers in all what is of interest to bilateral relations.

The Libyan minister was received on arrival by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, Abdul Karim Abu Ghaith from the Ministry's Protocol Department and Dhari al-Ajran and Nasir Al Mexien [name as received] from the minister's [as received] office.

Feted by Foreign Minister

LD061426 Kuwait KUNA in English 1249 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 6 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Saturday hosted a luncheon banquet in honor of visiting Libyan Secretary of Foreign Liaison Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi.

During the banquet, they discussed bilateral relations as well as current developments in the Arabian Gulf region and the Arab arena.

Al-Talhi is on a brief visit to Kuwait and he is on his way to pay an official visit to Iraq.

Departs for Baghdad

LD061836 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1705 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Sep (KUNA) — Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talihi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah, left the country this evening heading for Baghdad on an official visit to Iraq.

He was seen off by Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi, minister of state for foreign affairs; Libyan charge Hassuna al-Shawish; and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Receives Shevardnadze Message

JN051508 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] His excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a verbal message from his excellency Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze dealing with bilateral relations and ways of bolstering them. The message was conveyed during an audience the minister granted to his excellency the adviser, (F.D. Kulayev), head of the Soviet delegation currently visiting the Sultanate.

QATAR

'Regret' Expressed Over Missile Attack on Kuwait

JN061909 Doha QNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Doha, 6 Sep (QNA) — An official source has told QNA that the Government of Qatar followed with deep concern reports of the explosion of a long-range missile on the southern coast of fraternal Kuwait the day before yesterday. The government was also concerned about reports of the subsequent damage. The source said the State of Qatar expresses regret and displeasure over these provocative acts against fraternal Kuwait and considers them a new escalation of the already prevailing tension in the region. Therefore, it calls on the Security Council to act quickly and adopt the necessary steps and measures to prevent any repetition of such actions to preserve security and stability in this vital region of the world. The source added that the State of Qatar wishes fraternal Kuwait continued security, stability, and prosperity.

SAUDI ARABIA

Source Denies Tanker Attacked in Gulf

LD051654 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1627 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Sep (SPA) — A responsible source at the General Ports Establishment has confirmed that news agency reports carried yesterday about an attack on a Saudi tanker in the waters of the Arab Gulf are unfounded as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had no tankers operating in the Gulf during this period. A clarification was deemed necessary.

Government Reaction to Missile Attack on Kuwait

King Fahd Phones Amir

LD051722 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Sept. (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, this morning telephoned his

brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, to reassure himself about conditions there after the missile attack yesterday on populated southern areas in the fraternal State of Kuwait.

The custodian of the two holy mosques also expressed to his Brother Shaykh Jabir his sincere wish that God will preserve him for the sake of Kuwait, the security of its people, and its stability.

Cabinet Affirms Support

LD071912 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1650 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 7 Sep (SPA) — King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the custodian of the two holy mosques, presided over a Council of Ministers session that was held this afternoon in Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

In his statement to SPA after the session, Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir said that at the beginning of this session, the Council was informed about the new political and security developments in the region over the past 2 days. The Council heard with great interest all the statements and communiques issued by officials of fraternal Kuwait about the repeated aggressions against Kuwaiti oil tankers and some populated areas and industrial centers in southern Kuwait.

The Council reiterated the Saudi stance in support of fraternal Kuwait in all fields.

Minister al-Sha'ir said that the custodian of the two holy mosques analyzed and discussed the situation in the Arabian Gulf region in light of current developments and the continuous escalation in Gulf waters. The custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, said that it is regrettable that the events in the Gulf should overshadow the most important issues of the Arab nation. At the forefront of these are the Palestinian issue and events in Lebanon, which are becoming more acute and further escalated by the day, leading to complete economic deterioration. The events in Lebanon can no longer be tolerated by its citizens after they have waited patiently throughout the phases of the bloody tragedy since 1975 and up until today. This is in addition to the important Islamic issues, at the forefront of which is the issue of Afghanistan.

The information minister added: The custodian of the two holy mosques continued by explaining the way he envisages the hostile plan whose features have begun to emerge. He stressed that the only outlet for foiling this plan lies in the unanimity of the Arab nation within the framework of joint Arab action aiming at establishing peace and stability in the region.

The custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, warned against the continuation of the tense atmosphere prevailing in relations between some fraternal states. This is a matter that hinders the efforts being made to reduce tension so that comparative unanimity can prevail prior to convening an Arab summit.

The information minister continued his statement to SPA by saying that at the domestic level, the leader of the march [King Fahd] spoke about some important issues. Those included the doubling of our concern for raising the sons of this country in the proper manner in regard to their religion and homeland while preserving the inherited traditions and morals of society, guided in all that by the teachings of our Islamic belief.

King Fahd urged the youth — the graduates of secondary schools, scientific institutes, and technical centers — to enlist in all branches and sectors of the Armed Forces. He said: During my weekly meeting yesterday with my brother citizens, I answered a number of questions regarding various affairs, including the future of our graduates, whose qualifications did not enable them to acquire a place in universities, the military, or scientific institutes. I said that they should serve their homeland in the military sphere, which would welcome them and provide them with good training at the highest level, especially in all areas of military aviation, so that they will become a shield for their homeland and a support to their families. After training, those who wish to continue will be most welcome to do so, and those who opt to go back to civilian life will return to it strong and qualified to shoulder responsibility. [passage omitted]

The information minister added that the custodian of the two holy mosques then informed the Council on the results of his recent meeting with his excellency Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, and his meeting last night with his excellency Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR vice president and foreign minister. The Council then continued to discuss issues on the agenda. [passage omitted]

Source Expresses Sorrow

LD051702 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1628 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Sep (SPA) — Referring to the statement made by a responsible Kuwaiti Defense Ministry source to KUNA about the landing of a long-range missile yesterday on Kuwait's southern coast and the official memorandum sent by His Highness Shaykh al-Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, reported by Kuwaiti media this morning, a responsible Saudi source told SPA that the Saudi Government expresses its extreme sorrow at the damage inflicted on populated areas and industrial installations in southern Kuwait as a result of the missile explosion, and strongly denounces and condemns the repeated treacherous aggression against the fraternal State of Kuwait. He also expressed the government's hope that the UN Security Council rush to take decisive measures to prevent the repetition of such aggression against the State of Kuwait or any other Arab country in the Gulf region.

Riyadh Commentary on Arab Claim to Khuzestan

LD041907 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1150 GMT 1 Sep 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] When UN Security council Resolution No 598 was issued recently, demanding an immediate end to the Iraq- Iran war, one hoped that the fish of the Gulf would not swallow any more

shrapnel and would live in peace without the threat of extinction from many sources and instruments that spread desolation and render the earth a wasteland.

Iran, the great state of the shah, which imposed its greatness on leaders and states, has been defeated within 7 years by a smaller, less populated state. The two countries cannot be compared in terms of military strength. Iran of the ayatollahs has many creeds and adopts contradictory policies. Because of this strange structure and these diverse affiliations, it will be difficult for Iran's ruling circles to echo the UN Security Council resolution.

In mid-July, Iraq stopped the tanker war and the Gulf waters had a period of temporary calm. Then, 45 days later, Iraq despaired and resumed its attacks on tankers. It began by attacking an Iranian tanker and an Iranian island, destroying several oil loading platforms and reservoirs. Oil spread over the Gulf waters from damaged tankers, and the fish began to die.

Those who have suffered losses from the Gulf war include not only humans but also other creatures who survive on the Gulf's tranquillity. However, the war, which is drawing to a close, did not give the Iranians time for recreation and sport along the eastern shores of the Gulf. The land on both sides of the Gulf is Arab both in terms of its position and the language of its population. It is inconceivable that the Persian race should continue to rule an Arab country which was an established independent entity in the past. Therefore, the UN Security Council resolution, which was rejected by Iran and which ends the Iraq-Iran war, must also end all forms of colonization in the Gulf region, so that Arabistan [Khuzestan Province] might emerge again after 50 years of Persian rule.

The tankers' war, which began earlier this week, gives new indications that the end of the war cannot be determined by the Security Council, Iran, or Iraq but by the truth, which will be the just arbiter of this war despite the Iranian ayatollahs' insistence on pursuing a course that would preserve the dominance and power of their race in the Gulf.

The days of the shah will not be renewed by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Khomeyni, the ayatollahs, or hojjat ol-eslams who employ religion to sow enmity and discord among Islamic peoples and sects. Iranian radio has stated that the speaker of the Iranian parliament, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, has accepted a standing invitation to visit the USSR in preparation for the imposition of eternal communism on the banks of the Gulf. Persia would do well to seek the easiest means of determining its affiliation regardless of the trends of its leaders.

As for the Arab region, it will remain independent of any major power in the East and in the West. Arabistan will reemerge as an entity on the eastern coast of the Gulf and will become a member of the Arab League and the United Nations as soon as possible. UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which was rejected by Iran and welcomed by Iraq, will eventually lay in ruins, on which the peace-loving Iranians will weep and lament.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Government Following Attacks on Kuwait 'With Concern'

JN061304 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1240 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 6 Sep (WAKH) — The UAE has regretted the damage to the residential areas and industrial installations in southern Kuwait as a result of the explosion of a long-range missile. A UAE official source said in a statement today that his country is following with extreme concern the attacks against Kuwait. He said the UAE denounces any action that escalates tension in the region and strongly condemns these treacherous aggressions against fraternal Kuwait. The source added: From this premise the UAE believes that such actions endanger the security of one of the GCC members. It calls on the Security Council to take decisive measures to prevent any repetition of such aggressions against Kuwait or any GCC state.

Navigation Continues To Be Banned on East Coast

JN080955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0710 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Dubayy, 8 Sep (WAKH) — Security sources in the UAE have stressed that navigation continues to be banned in some parts of the UAE's east coast territorial waters due to continuing surveying operations by the Coast Guard and the Air Force to determine the existence of mines in the region.

The newspaper *Al-Bayan* published in Dubayy today quoted these sources as saying that the continuation of the surveying operations, which were scheduled to end last week, is a precautionary measure to determine whether the region is free from objects that might hinder navigation. These sources did not set a date for the completion of these operations, pointing out that the French minesweeper will arrive in the region this week to take part in minesweeping operations.

In another development, for the sake of safeguarding the safety and security of ships until the ban period is over, the Al-Fujayrah port authorities have issued instructions to all shipping companies in the area requesting them not to interfere in determining where the ships they deal with should anchor and to refer to the port authorities which have the authority to determine such things.

The port authorities said that they are still waiting for the appropriate time to lift the ban, which has been imposed on parts of the UAE territorial waters for almost a month, and to obtain assurances from the UAE security authorities that the region is free of mines or any other objects that might hinder the safety and security of navigation. The port authorities stressed that the arrival of ships to UAE ports is progressing normally as scheduled and is not affected by the ban.

It is worth mentioning that the current ban on the UAE east coast was imposed after the incident involving the ship *Anita* and after two mines were found in the area.

Armed Forces Continue Gulf War Operations

Communique No 2,812

JN041645 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1605 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,812 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 4 September]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The following is a roundup of the activities of our units for last night and today:

1. Our heroic Air Force carried out 102 combat missions against vital enemy targets today. Our aircraft also destroyed many enemy assembly points, weapons emplacements, and hardware in the operational areas. Our aircraft then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Our daring helicopters carried out 49 combat sorties against enemy weapon emplacements and assembly points of the scoundrels in the operational areas today, inflicting new losses on the Khomeyniites. Our planes then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, one machinegun emplacement and one infantry position were destroyed and their occupants killed. Three vehicles were also set on fire in this sector and six ammunition dumps were blown up.

4. In the I Army Corps northern sector, one bulldozer was destroyed and two ammunition dumps were blown up. In the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan, three infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed.

5. In the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris, one pilotless reconnaissance helicopter was downed and one machinegun was destroyed. In the VII Army Corps sector, five ammunition dumps were destroyed.

6. To rid themselves of the Tehran rulers' terrorism, several Iranian military personnel sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to the rear lines.

7. The base Iranian regime shelled residential areas in the steadfast city of Basra with long-range artillery. As a result, 9 civilians, including 2 children, were martyred; 19 civilians, including 4 women and 1 child, were wounded; and several houses and some civilian property sustained damage. The criminals also shelled the Sirwan District, which is affiliated with Halabjah. As a result, three civilians, including one woman, were martyred and seven other civilians, including two children, were wounded. The rancorous enemy also shelled Qal'at Diozah, wounding one woman. Paradise to our martyrs and a swift recovery for our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 4 September 1987

'Large Maritime Target' Attacked 4 Sep

JN041807 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman on 4 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. At 2030 [1630 GMT] today, our heroic Air Force dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. Our aircraft then returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God.

[Dated] 4 September 1987

Spokesman Denies Plane Shot Down

JN041908 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1848 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Sep (INA) — Iraq has denied Iran's claims to have downed an Iraqi plane today. In a statement to INA, a military spokesman affirmed that the Iranian regime makes such false and baseless allegations in order to divert the Iranian people's attention from their tragic situation. He added that all Iraqi planes had returned safely to base after carrying out their missions.

The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to present any evidence that their claims are sound. He noted that last night Baghdad television had shown the wreck of an Iranian plane shot down by ground defenses while it was attempting to raid residential areas in the Maysan Governorate in southern Iraq.

Residential Shelling Denied

JN050704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0625 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA) — Iraq has rebutted Iranian claims that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down yesterday. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA this morning that all Iraqi aircraft had carried out their missions and returned safely to base yesterday. The spokesman challenged the Iranian rulers to produce any evidence to support the veracity of their claims. He noted: Of course, Iran cannot shoot down aircraft in large numbers. It cannot produce any shred of evidence to confirm its claims.

The military spokesman explained that the Iranian leaders believe that such empty and groundless lies will erect a screen which will prevent their people from discerning the pettiness and deception of their rulers. The spokesman added: If the Iranian rulers believe that this can be achieved, then they delude themselves. The reality of the overwhelming Iraqi victory cannot be concealed by lofty mountains. The spokesman stated: How can these threadbare screens and exposed methods detract from Iraq's superiority and success?

In another statement to INA this morning, the military spokesman also rebuttd Iranian claims that Iraqi artillery had shelled Sar Dasht yesterday. The spokesman affirmed that Iraqi

artillery had not shelled either Sar Dasht or any other Iranian city. The spokesman added: If Iraq ever wants to undertake such shelling, it will do so at the appropriate time and it will not hesitate to carry it out. The spokesman added: Iraq also will not hesitate to announce such a measure immediately after it takes place. He concluded: Iraq in this case will not resort to the enemy's deceptions and empty lies. These deceptions and lies are now known not only to the Iranian people, who are afflicted with their rulers, but to the whole world at large.

Pilotless Iranian Helicopter Downed

JN042038 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] According to a late statement issued this evening, our aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast. A pilotless reconnaissance helicopter was also shot down in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris.

Second Maritime Target Attacked

JN050535 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0500 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 5 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We have an inalienable right to cut off the oil supplies of the Iranian regime, which continues to insist on war. Pursuant to this right, our heroic Air Force planes dealt an effective and accurate hit against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast at 0300 [2300 GMT on 4 September] today. This is the second enemy target hit by the missiles of the brave hawks last night.

After carrying out their mission, our planes returned safely to the homeland, praise be to God.

[Dated] 5 September 1987

Third Maritime Target Hit

JN051431 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1419 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Statement by Iraqi military spokesman dated 5 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In an effort to deprive the tyrannical Iranian rulers of the use of their oil lifelines to continue their aggressive war, our rapacious hawks carried out a successful raid against a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1525 [1125 GMT] today. After delivering an accurate and effective blow, the hawks returned safely to their base in the homeland, praise be to God.

[Dated] 5 September 1987

Communique No 2,813

JN051702 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,813 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The forces of right are continuing to defend the homeland and to disrupt the enemy's lifelines, thereby stressing Iraq's superiority regardless of the war's duration or the ways in which it is fought. The following is a roundup of the activities of our brave forces for last night and today:

1. Our Armed Forces are continuing to implement the will of our people to cut off the oil supplies of the Iranian regime, the revenues from which it uses to bolster its war efforts and continue its aggression against our country. This aggression began 7 years ago and is still going on against the will of the international community as represented by UN Security Council Resolution No 598, a resolution which has been publicly and officially rejected by the Iranian regime. Exercising our inalienable right to destroy the sources of aggression, the planes of our gigantic Air Force carried out the following combat missions:

A. Our aircraft dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 2030 [1630 GMT] yesterday.

B. At 0300 today, Our planes dealt another blow to a second maritime target in the same area at 0300 today.

C. At 1525, our planes dealt a blow to a third maritime target near the Iranian coast.

D. The planes of our heroic Air Force carried out 56 combat missions last night and today against the above-mentioned targets, as well as other military targets in the operational theaters. All of our planes returned safely in God's care. Blessed be our Air Force for the duties it is performing in defending our country and for the sake of creating prospects for peace.

2. Our brave helicopter gunships carried out 36 combat missions against enemy units, inflicting new losses on the scoundrels and on their weapons and equipment. Our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. In the VII Army Corps front, our units killed seven enemy personnel, blew up four ammunition dumps and two infantry positions, and destroyed one vehicle and one light machinegun.

4. In the V Army Corps northern sector, one personnel shelter was destroyed, two ammunition dumps were blown up, and four enemy scoundrels were killed.

5. In the I Army Corps northern sector, two observation posts were destroyed. One infantry position was also destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector.

6. A number of Iranian soldiers took refuge with our forward units. They were evacuated safely to the rear lines.

7. The criminal enemy shelled the township of Qal'at Dizah and a number of nearby villages with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 September 1987

Spokesman Denies Battles in North

JN051857 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1929 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA) — Iraq has ridiculed Iranian claims about battles in the border areas northeast of Irbil in northern Iraq.

In a statement to INA today, an Iraqi military spokesman affirmed that there were absolutely no such battles and that the situation in the northern operational theater is completely stable.

He added: We refer the public to the Iranian rulers' claims about penetrating certain distances into Iraqi territory and about the seizure of certain heights, as indicated in their communiques, so that people will check previous Iranian communiques and see the false claims they contain.

Spokesman Denies Iranian Claims

JN061955 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Sep (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims about the downing of an Iraqi helicopter today. In a statement to INA, the spokesman said: Fortunately, the Iranian claims have come at a time when Iraqi military helicopters have been inactive. This refutes these claims. The Iraqi military spokesman also refuted Iranian claims about battles in the northern front, as well as the capture of villages and the headquarters of the 999th Brigade. The spokesman asserted: It is a nice coincidence that no such brigade exists in the Iraqi Army. This further confirms that Iranian news is mere media fabrication. Concluding his statement, the spokesman affirmed that the situation throughout the battlefields in the north and south has been completely stable for the last 2 days with the exception of artillery exchanges across the border.

Communique No 2,814

JN061634 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,814 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 6 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant Armed Forces are continuing to perform their holy duty. They are doing so by defending Iraqi territory and the dignity of the Iraqi people. By defending the achievements of Iraq's revolution against the aggression of the tyrannical Zionist Khomeyniite clique, they are performing their holy duty. The following is a roundup of the activities of our forces for last night and today:

1. Three enemy soldiers were killed and one tank, one bulldozer [preceding word in English], one observation post, and one ammunition dump were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

2. Our forces in the VII Army Corps sector managed to kill one enemy soldier and destroy two observation posts, one medium machinegun emplacement, and one 60-mm mortar.

3. One enemy soldier was killed and one infantry position, one machinegun, and three ammunition dumps were destroyed in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah. One ammunition dump was detonated in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

4. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris. One ammunition dump was detonated in the V Army Corps northern sector.

5. The clique of tyranny used long-range artillery to shell the residential areas in the valiant city of Basra. As a result, one civilian was wounded and a number of houses and civilian property were damaged. The spiteful enemy also used long-range artillery to shell the village of Mandali, damaging civilian property there.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 6 September 1987

Communique No 2,815

JN071639 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Communique No 2,815 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 7 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The tyrant agents of Zionism ruling in Iran insist on perpetuating the war. Regardless of their insistence, they will only find in lofty Iraq a people who continue to march along the road toward freedom and progress. They will also find an Armed Forces whose strength is increasing and whose capability is growing. These forces affirm that they are always able to wipe out the remnants of the aggressors and to inflict a massive defeat on all adventures launched by the malicious ones. Iraq will always achieve victory while the unjust ones will continue to reap defeat.

The following is a roundup of the activities of our units for last night and today:

1. Our bold helicopter gunships carried out four combat missions against enemy units in the operational theaters, inflicting further losses on them. Our helicopter gunships then returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Two scoundrels were killed, three personnel positions and a shelter were destroyed, and the enemy engineering works was pounded in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

3. Three infantry positions and a vehicle were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. Another position and an observation post were destroyed in the VII Army Corps sector.

4. A number of Iranian military men sought refuge with our forward units. They were safely evacuated to rear lines.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 September 1987

Spokesman Denies Helicopter Downed

JN071759 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations about the downing of an Iraqi helicopter gunship. In a statement to INA tonight, the spokesman said that such allegations have become a daily routine with the Iranian rulers. He affirmed that they are so silly that they deserve no consideration whatsoever.

Saddam Husayn Inspects II Army Corps Sector 4 Sep

JN041829 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, has stated that after 7 years of fighting Iraq's options now point to the legitimacy of safeguarding the principles by which Iraq has responded to the aggression against it. He added that Iran's possibilities are becoming more narrow, curbing its aggressive nature and depriving it of opportunities for aggression both inside and outside the country. During his visit to the heroic II Army Corps sector to mark the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the beginning of the criminal Iranian aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980, his excellency said: We want to see you, as well as the citizens of Diyala, commemorate this anniversary because the aggression began against this sector. The first retaliation came from this sector as well. We want to remind you of the importance of defending the homeland, although men who have been fighting the enemy for 7 years do not need to be reminded of this. Such men want to renew the means they have to express their defense of the homeland.

The leader president added: The Iranians have placed themselves at a critical impasse. They cannot make a decision on peace. However, they should make such a decision because they have no other solution. At the same time, it has been proved to them that their aggression cannot produce any results. Iran must accept the Security Council resolution and all its articles and paragraphs, for the situation is interrelated and cannot be compartmentalized. It is not possible to make selections.

His excellency affirmed: When we returned to the international border, we no longer were faced with any difficulties. Our responsibility became less complicated. Dialogue with the Iraqi people became simpler; it was no longer complicated. When we told the Iraqi people that we were on Iranian territory — in Shush, Dezful, Mohammerah [Khorramshahr], Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, and Gilan-e Gharb in defense of Diyala, Al-'Amarah, and Basra — some citizens, even some military personnel, except those who were well informed, found it difficult to realize the connection between our presence in front of the target and protecting the vital target.

President Saddam Husayn stated: The last shot will be fired by the one who stays. This is not my expression; it is the information minister's. It is very subtle, and I am fond of it. Symbolically, it means that the last stage of the fighting will favor the party that remains steadfast. It means that when the war ends, all honest men will remain on their horses to the last moment. History will record this. History has recorded our people's prominent position.

President Saddam Husayn visited the Diyala Governorate and toured the city of Ba'qubah. He visited some citizens in their homes and became acquainted with their excellent social and living conditions. The masses who gathered in the city's streets expressed their enthusiasm for President Saddam Husayn's historic leadership. They also expressed their deep love for his excellency and their pride in the great Iraqi victory over the criminal Iranian aggression. They pledged to his excellency that they will continue their defense of great Iraq. They affirmed that they will contribute to the march toward lofty construction, firmly led by his excellency, to achieve prosperity for the nation.

Chairs RCC-Ba'th Party Meeting

JN042036 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn chaired a joint meeting of the RCC and the Ba'th Party Regional Command this evening. The meeting was held to mark the seventh anniversary of the Iranian aggression on 4 September 1980. The conferees recalled the rich experience of the just and brave battle being waged by the great Iraqi people. They considered national principles, the values of ultruism, courage, and humility, and the spirit of sacrifice to be the basic elements for strengthening firmness and steadfastness, resisting aggression, and crushing the human waves of barbarism that have continued for 7 years.

During the meeting, President Saddam Husayn asserted that these values and principles, which stem from Ba'th Party principles and from the Iraqi and Arab heritage, must be the guide followed by the Iraqi command, the Armed Forces, state officials, and leaders of society to realize a decisive victory over the aggression and to achieve a just, comprehensive, and permanent peace.

The conferees also reviewed the results of the visit by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and his accompanying delegation to Saudi Arabia. They expressed satisfaction with these results, which reflect the deep relations of brotherhood and cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Emphasis was again laid on Iraq's absolute solidarity with its brothers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against any threat or aggression. During the meeting, it was stressed that Iraq is prepared to cooperate and to coordinate with Saudi Arabia in all fields to preserve pan-Arab security.

The conferees reviewed recent political developments connected with the war. They adopted measures in this regard and issued the necessary instructions to implement them.

Khayrallah Cables President on War Anniversary
JN041956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 4 Sep (INA) — Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and minister of defense, has announced that Iraq has formulated the necessary plans to inflict a total and comprehensive defeat on the Iranian regime, a defeat from which it will never recover.

In a cable to President Saddam Husayn to mark the completion of 7 years of war with Iran, Khayrallah said that the Armed Forces have resolved to turn any adventure launched by the Iranian enemy against the Iraqi border into a disaster for its wornout regime. Khayrallah added: While we extend our hands in peace in accordance with international resolutions — a peace that is complete and undivided — the Iraqi Armed Forces nevertheless are fully prepared to crush the enemy with complete determination and confidence. [passage omitted]

The defense minister asserted: The Iranian enemy thought that it could make time work against us. However, the Iraqi leadership has provided all the means necessary to turn the time factor to Iraq's advantage. [passage omitted]

The defense minister added: The great victories achieved by the Iraqi Armed Forces over the last 7 years confirm the enemy's weakening strength, its shaky resources, and its failure to achieve its base aim; namely, to expand at the expense of Iraqi territory and sovereignty.

Information Minister Holds News Conference 5 Sep
JN051200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA) — Latif Nusayyif Jasim, Iraqi culture and information minister, has stated that Iraq's arm cannot be twisted. He added that the military equation following 7 years of war has been settled in Iraq's favor.

The information minister made these remarks at a news conference today attended by several Arab and foreign journalists who are visiting Iraq on the occasion of the glorious Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah week. During the news conference, Latif Nusayyif Jasim affirmed that Iraq is now the stronger party in the conflict. He said: Iraq is now the stronger side from a military, moral, and economic point of view and in terms of its international and Arab relations.

The Iraqi information minister added: As the 7th year of the war draws to an end, we see certain victory as clear as the sun. Latif Nusayyif Jasim asserted: Victory for us means freedom for Iraq to choose a political option within its own international boundaries and an absence of interference in domestic affairs; it means that the countries of the region should be a positive factor for safeguarding peace.

The Iraqi minister then reviewed the aggressions and provocations perpetrated by the Zionist Iranian regime before it launched its treacherous aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim answered more than 50 questions put to him by Arab and foreign correspondents. His answers dealt with recent developments of the Iraq-Iran war and the tense state of affairs existing in the Gulf region in light of Iranian threats.

Further on News Conference
JN051449 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (WAKH) — Iraq today welcomed UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar's visit to Iraq as part of his efforts to implement Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

Speaking at a news conference here today, Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim said that Iraq welcomes this visit. He added that Iraq is following up the political moves being made by the UN Security Council permanent members vis-a-vis implementation of this resolution. He noted that Iraq now has no specific stand against this or that international side in this regard. He stressed that the Security Council should move on to a new stage by imposing sanctions against Iran for its refusal to implement Resolution No 598.

Within the context of his replies to questions from approximately 70 correspondents representing various news organizations, Jasim said that Resolution No 598 has become binding; nothing should be discussed outside of its framework.

He reiterated Iraq's determination to continue its air activities against Iranian economic and oil targets if Iran fails to respond to the international will to end the Gulf war. He said that Iraq is now stronger than ever before and is capable of destroying any Iranian offensive or adventure. He described Iraqi air raids on Iranian targets as a firm policy.

He affirmed that Iraq will continue to destroy all of Iran's economic resources until that country responds to Resolution No 598 and stops the war. Latif Nusayyif Jasim expressed Iraq's solidarity with Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the other Gulf states in the face of any dangers they might face. He added that the security of the Gulf states is the security of Iraq, and that Iraq will confront any attack against these states. He reiterated what Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has said; namely, that Iraq will fire 1,000 bullets against Iran if the latter fires even 1 bullet against Kuwait.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim warned all the tankers in Gulf waters. He said that Iraqi aircraft do not discriminate between tankers but direct their blows against all targets in the prohibited zone. He stressed that Iraq will define its stand toward all states after the war has ended in accordance with the positions these states adopted during the war. He said that we will call to account any side that has supported Iran, be it an Arab or a foreign country, after the war has ended.

The Iraqi culture and information minister denied claims that Iraq is attempting to drag the United States into the conflict by continuing its attacks on targets in Gulf waters. He stated: We have never thought of this. Our attacks against Iranian installations did not begin recently but some 5 years ago as a result of

our air supremacy.

Jasim also affirmed that Iraq attacks Iranian targets, just as Iran attacks Iraqi ones, regardless of the presence of any other side in the Gulf waters. When asked about the intensive U.S. presence in the Gulf, he replied: We should first ask why this presence came about. If there had been no war, such a presence would not have occurred. This presence is part of the war, and it will end as soon as the war ends.

Jasim stressed the strong and friendly relations which exist with the Soviet Union, adding that this does not mean that we cannot criticize it or that such criticism will affect the essence of the long-term friendship between the two countries.

At the end of the news conference, held during Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah week, the information minister affirmed that any side whichinvolves itself in relations with Iran will lose both Iran and the Arabs. Iran has no firm position and the Arabs will never forget any assistance extended by anyone to Iran at any time.

Perez de Cuellar Meets With Envoy to UN

JN041941 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1900 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] The Security Council members will meet tonight for further consultations on recent developments in the ongoing efforts to implement Security Council Resolution No 598, which calls for an end to the Iraq-Iran war. An INA correspondent in New York has reported that today's meeting takes place following consultations among the permanent Security Council members during this past week. The correspondent said: In the wake of yesterday's deliberations among the Security Council members, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar met with 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent UN representative, and briefed him on the results of these consultations.

Javier Perez de Cuellar later met with (James Victor), UN Security Council chairman for this current month, and briefed him on the topics discussed.

Spokesman Criticizes EEC Statement on Gulf War

JN051914 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA) — Iraq has asserted that the EEC statement, which deliberately generalizes certain concepts and which considers the Iraqi and Iranian positions to be alike with regard to UN Security Council Resolution No 598, represents an erroneous policy that does not comply with the facts known to EEC states, some of which are permanent UN Security Council members.

An official spokesman for the Iraqi Foreign Ministry said that the ministry had summoned Henry Polas [name as received], the Danish charge d'affaires, this evening in his capacity as EEC representative and informed him of the Iraqi Government's view on the statement issued by the EEC states the day before yesterday.

Dr Riyad al-Qaysi, ministry spokesman and head of the International Organizations Department at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, affirmed that this policy will only encourage the Iranian regime to insist on a continuation of the war in violation of the will of the international community to bring about peace in accordance with Security Council Resolution No 598. Iraq has agreed to implement the entire resolution as an indivisible whole.

The spokesman added that the EEC states must shoulder their responsibilities in exposing Iran's rejection of the international community's will and pressure Iran to accept peace in accordance with the binding UN Security Council resolution. He also affirmed that Iran is responsible for endangering international navigation in the Arab Gulf and for mining it. Iraq, he added, only acts against the interests of the Iranian regime that feed its war machine.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Article Criticizes TASS Report

JN070853 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 5 Sep 87 p 2

[Article by Marwan 'Abdallah: "TASS Illusions"]

[Text] On 2 September 1987, the Soviet News Agency "TASS" transmitted a report by its correspondent in Washington under the headline "The United States Is Fanning the Gulf War."

In this report "TASS" said that a UPI correspondent had learned from a source in President Reagan's administration that the United States is secretly instigating Iraq to escalate combat operations against Iran. "TASS" added that a reporter had informed White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater of the following: All signs indicate that you are giving the Iraqis the green light to continue bombing Iran. Commenting on this, "TASS" said: The UPI report confirms this conclusion.

"TASS" concluded its report by stating: The instigatory U.S. stand conflicts with the UN Security Council resolution, which calls for ending the Gulf war and for observing a cease-fire.

We do not want to comment on the illogical way in which "TASS" arrived at this strange conclusion. However, we would like to tell this agency and those responsible for it: The Iraqis are not the type of people who can be instigated by a foreign element, whoever it may be, to do something that conflicts with their national and pan-Arab interests. The Iraqis adhere to this policy. Their national pride and great self-respect do not allow them to make any concessions to anyone.

We are confident that the long-standing relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union have proved to the Soviets before others that Iraq, which establishes the broadest possible relations and contacts with various countries, as well as the deepest relations of cooperation and friendship with certain specific countries, will not allow such ties to turn into a master-servant relationship.

Iraq is first and foremost an independent country that takes great pride in its independence. It is so sensitive about its independence that it will not accept any relationship which might undermine this independence and pride no matter how slight or transient

such an undermining might be. It is sensitive to the point that it rejects even hints, let alone green and red lights.

Iraq establishes ties with other countries in accordance with international laws and norms. Its relations with these countries depend on the principle of openness and not secrecy and an exchange of opinions. If "TASS" does not know this, it had better know it now. If it had a certain illusion about a certain matter, it should reconsider this illusion according to the criteria we have mentioned. Otherwise, it will have thoroughly misjudged the situation.

We hope that "TASS" really has been under an illusion. We also hope that it will correct this illusion and exert some effort toward achieving the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, dated 20 July. This resolution was adopted with a unique international unanimity. Iran is now trying to evade this resolution and to split up its paragraphs. Regrettably, it is being encouraged to do so by the stands of certain sides.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives in Baghdad 6 Sep

JN061620 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Jordan's monarch, His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal, has arrived in Baghdad on a visit to Iraq. President Saddam Husayn headed those who received King Husayn. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; other RCC members; the head of the President's Office; ministers; the president's secretary; the Iraqi ambassador to Amman; the Jordanian ambassador to Baghdad; and the staff from the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad were also present to receive the king.

His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal is accompanied by a delegation which includes Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Holds Talks With Saddam Husayn

JN061932 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn and King Husayn held a round of talks this evening which dealt with the strong brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries, as well as the Arab situation in general. The talks also focused on the dangers and threats currently facing the Arab nation, especially the Iranian aggression aimed against the Arab nation's security. Iraq was represented at the talks by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, RCC member, deputy prime minister, and foreign minister; Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister; the minister of information and culture; the head of the President's Office; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman. The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad.

President Saddam Husayn gave a dinner this evening in honor of his guest King Husayn. The ministers attended part of the talks.

Departs Baghdad 6 Sep

JN062030 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2018 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 6 Sep (INA) — His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan left Baghdad today following a short visit to Iraq that lasted for several hours. President Saddam Husayn headed those who saw him off. RCC members, ministers, and senior Iraqi officials also saw the king off. [passage omitted]

Libyan Foreign Minister Arrives in Baghdad

JN070730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit that will last for several days. He was received by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of officials from the Foreign Ministry.

Official Talks Open

JN071119 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA) — Official talks between Iraq and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah began here this morning. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, led the Iraqi representation to the talks while Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, led the Libyan side.

Saddam Husayn Receives Libyans

JN080929 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0916 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and his accompanying delegation. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations, Arab issues, the requirements of Arab solidarity, and joint Arab action to face all the challenges to the Arab nation.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the president's secretary also attended the meeting.

Libyan Official Departs 8 Sep

JN081149 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1132 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Sep (INA) — Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Baghdad today. The Libyan official held talks with Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who saw him off.

Aircraft Raid 'Terrorist' Targets South of Sidon

TA050909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Air Force planes attacked terrorist objectives south of Sidon this morning. All the aircraft returned safely to their base, and the pilots reported accurate hits.

The IDF spokesman reported that the targets that were attacked served as the terrorist organizations' command posts, from where they planned to launch attacks in Israel in the near future. Once again, let us repeat that the aircraft returned safely to their base.

Indiscriminate Bombing Denied

TA061103 Tel Aviv 'Al HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
6 Sep 87 pp 1, 4

[Report by military correspondent Avi Pnayahu and agencies]

[Excerpt] Senior military sources last night denied terrorist reports from Sidon that the Air Force indiscriminately raided several targets in the vicinity of the city, claiming that the air raid concentrated on only two targets: a two-story building that housed terrorists, and another structure that served as an arsenal of war materiel and ammunition.

The raid near Sidon lasted 15 minutes. "On Saturday the IDF again exercised the element of surprise: The terrorists never suspected we would attack them on Saturday morning.

"The Air Force had sound reason to attack that objective. There were reports that terrorist squads were about to launch attacks in Israel from it.

"The fact that many terrorists were killed proves that the IDF indeed hit the targets it set out to attack, and they must have been teeming with personnel," the military sources added. [passage omitted]

IDF Searches Follow 5 Sep Katyusha Attacks

TA061036 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Israel Army forces have killed a terrorist and wounded another in searches north of the security zone in south Lebanon. The IDF forces suffered no injuries. The searches followed Katyusha rocket attacks from the area overnight. Our reporter adds that the two terrorists were spotted from 2 km north of the security zone.

Army sources denied that the IDF had any intentions of extending the security zone area, but that it did reserve the right to conduct searches beyond the zone to prevent Katyusha attacks.

Cabinet Discusses Impact of Lavi Closure

TA061025 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that ultimately 3,000 Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] workers will have to be laid off. Briefing the Cabinet on the process of wrapping up the Lavi project, the defense minister said that the IDF is prepared to provide employment for some 500 to 600 engineers, and the Israel Electricity Company is ready to absorb hundreds of employees. He also noted that those people who work in electronics and avionics projects affiliated with the Lavi will not be dismissed.

Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said during the debate that it is now necessary to focus on joint IAI-U.S. projects to use the know-how and technical abilities accumlated by the IAI. He claimed that the IAI's technological potential goes beyond Israel's financial abilities.

Minister Sharon said that implementation of the decision should be suspended by 3 months because, he claimed, we are unprepared to engage in work on the IDF's alternatives.

According to our correspondent Me'ir Einstein, Minister Tzur contended that the prime minister's remarks that a second Lavi vote is possible give rise to illusion among IAI workers who hope the project can still be revived. According to Tzur, these statements by the prime minister invite anarchy. Mr Shamir responded by saying that he hopes anarchy will not erupt and that a Cabinet resolution exists on the matter, which is binding on everyone.

The Cabinet's discussion of the Lavi project is still continuing. Thousands of IAI employees who demonstrated around the government office complex in Jerusalem have ended their action. Our correspondent notes that the demonstration was peaceful, except for an attempt to break into the parking lot in front of the prime minister's office.

Session Ends, No Decisions Made

TA061119 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Excerpt] The Cabinet session that discussed the Lavi, among other issues, has ended without any resolutions. The issue may be raised again for another discussion at next week's Cabinet session, when Labor and Social Welfare Minister Moshe Qatzav presents his plan for the procedure of laying off Israel Aircraft Industries employees. [passage omitted]

Shamir 'Lashes Out' at IDF

TA060503 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
7 Sep 87 pp 1, 2

[Report by Menahe Shalev and Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday lashed out at the IDF, saying that the army's participation in the public debate over the Lavi was a "mistake" and an "intolerable deviation."

Speaking to a meeting of the 2,000-strong Herut Central Committee in the West Bank town of Ari'el, Shamir said that he hoped that the IDF "mistake was a one time affair and would not be repeated." He added that "despite that mistake and deviation, we must tell the men of the IDF that we have the fullest respect and admiration for the IDF, which fully espresses Israel's power."

In Tel Aviv, senior military sources yesterday declined comment on Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's scathing attack on the IDF for criticizing the Lavi project, though his attack undoubtedly hurt.

Shamir's comments came as no suprise to the army's senior command which had heard him on August 24 advising the General Staff to keep away from political disputes as "from fire."

The military declined comment because it would appear to be criticizing the political leadership which, as one military source put it, "is not customary."

However, Shamir's statements are known to have saddened security sources who believe the IDF had expressed its professional opinion in good faith. The sources said they assumed the army had just been fulfilling its true national duty of preparing for a future war as best as it could, in the realization that it would have to bear responsibility for the results of such a war.

Moreover, the IDF had expressed its views on the Lavi long before the issue had become politicized. The IDF had presented its case against the Lavi at a time when the opposing views had cut across political lines and only at a much later stage did the issue become a partisan question.

It would not have been correct for the IDF to have trimmed its professional judgements so that they should conform to the drift in the Cabinet, one source argued.

The uneasy feeling was also a result of a realization that the IDF which was always considered to be at the center of the national consensus, enjoying widespread legitimacy, was suddenly the target of such an attack. Over the long term, the effects of such attacks could be irreversible and Prime Minister Shamir would in time, realize his mistake, *The Jerusalem Post* was told.

But it was the Labour Party which emerged as the main villain at yesterday's meeting, with Herut leaders fiercely attacking their rivals for their role in terminating the Lavi project. Herut ministers said that Labour wanted to "whittle Israel down to size" and that it "lacked faith" in Israel's strength.

The Labour Party last night responded immediately, and in kind, in a statement that said that the "crude outburst of verbiage will not cover up the disasters which the Likud has wrought upon us, such as inflation, the war in Lebanon and the embroilment of the Israel Aircraft Industries." The Labour Party statement added that in the future both parties would continue doing what they do best: "the Likud will deal with incitement and the stirring up of strife and Labour with mending the disasters which the Likud had caused."

Trade and Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon launched a particularly virulent attack on Labour leader Shim'on Peres, saying that the foreign minister "puts on airs as if he himself has built everything." Speaking of Peres' espousal of cooperation on military production with the U.S., Sharon said "lie follows upon lie, confusion comes in the wake of confusion."

Sharon said that Labour "more than any other factor," had contributed to the weakening of the people. Peres and his comrades, he said, want to create a "dwarfed state."

The usually soft-spoken former minister, Moshe Arens, who was criticized by Shamir and Deputy Prime Minister David Levi for having "abandoned the campaign" to save the Lavi, was also uncharacteristically bitter in flaying his political opponents. Arens said that the "left" had argued that the Lavi "was too big for such a small country."

"This is the slogan of the left," said Arens, "and perhaps the country is too big for them too. Is it not clear that the left opposes the Lavi, and opposes Ari'el, things which are the basics of Zionism, because of their lack of faith and knowledge?"

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi said that the difference between Labour and Likud was the difference between "a great vision and a crisis of confidence." He said that Labour was bent on "erasing every project which the Likud had initiated."

'Labour wishes to be portrayed as the national unity government partner which had given the Americans what they had asked for," Levi charged. [quoatation marks as published]

While attacking Labour, Herut skirted around its own problems. Finance Minister Moshe Nisim, whose opposition to the Lavi angered many Herut Central Committee members, was not even mentioned, save for scattered calls from the audience. The Central Committee did not tackle the problem of imposing party discipline on Nisim, but adopted a resolution calling for Herut ministers to "make every possible effort to reevaluate the question of the Lavi, recognizing the fact that such a revaluation might lead to new conclusions." The committee added that "as long as there is no other decision, the government's previous decision must be honoured."

The Central Committee also avoided dealing with the establishment of its own institutions, a process which has been stalemated due to the irreconcilable positions of the competing factions and because of Sharon's insistence on being made head of the party's political committee. The Central Committee unanimously appointed 22 other party committees, to be headed mainly by the party MK's [Knesset members] and to be coordinated by Sharon.

Shamir lauded Arens's "brave and correct" leadership of the campaign for the Lavi in the Cabinet.

The Herut meeting which dealt mainly with the Lavi controversy was ostensibly called to deal with the policy toward settlements, an area which afforded even more ground for attacks on Labour. Levi and a special propaganda booklet distributed at the meeting, claimed that between 1967-1977, Labour had established no settlements at all in Galilee, while between 1977-1987 "the

Likud government" had set up 69 settlements there. During its decade in power following the Six-Day War, the booklet claimed, Labour had set up only 57 settlements in all of greater Israel, while in the following decade the Likud had set up 254.

Shamir promised the Central Committee delegates that the fourth year of the national unity government would be devoted to a renewed impetus for settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

He exhorted his followers "not to forget the diplomatic battle," saying that in the past few weeks talk of an international conference has all but disappeared.

Labor Denounces Shamir on IDF

TA061942 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] This evening the Labor Party reacted to the prime minister's remarks about the IDF at the Herut Central Committee session. In its statement, the Labor Party states that this was a rude verbal outburst which will not make up for the disasters the Likud has brought upon the people: inflation, the war in Lebanon, and entangling Israel Aircraft Industries. The Labor Party states that henceforth each side will continue to focus on what it does best: the Likud on agitation and incitement, and the Labor Party on putting the disasters right.

Knesset Member Ran Kohen of the Citizens Rights Movement this evening called on the prime minister to reach conclusions at once and to quiet the premiership. According to Kohen, there is no precedent in the history of the State of Israel for a prime minister to be in opposition to the Army.

Rabin Defends IDF; Views FRG Visit

TA070535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by program moderator David Grossman and military correspondent Stelephon Mu'el Tal in the studio — live]

[Excerpts] [Grossman] Good morning, Mr Rabin.

[Rabin] Good morning.

[Grossman] Mr Rabin, we would like to hear your reaction, as defense minister, to the comments made by the prime minister yesterday to the effect that the IDF's intervention in the Lavi debate was an unbearable deviation.

[Rabin] I have not seen the exact text of the prime minister's remarks; therefore, it is hard for me to react to specific comments made by him. Generally speaking, during my 3 years as defense minister, I have regarded it a duty to ensure two things at the same time: first, that the General Staff officers, whether in discussions in the General Staff or in the government sessions, will express their opinion to the decisionmaking forums, that is, the political echelon; and that they will freely express their opinion also to the Knesset committees during the discussion stage. I considered this as one of the ways of eliminating the small head phenomenon [evading responsibility] not only in the lower officer level, but also among the senior officers. I think that the IDF's senior echelon bears heavy reponsibility in preparing the IDF for war and during war itself. Now all this holds as long as no decision has been made. Once a decision is made — on any issue, such as what are the war's objectives, how to conduct it, how to organize the IDF, how to arm it; these are the political-level decisions — the IDF command has to carry it out in the best possible way. We must remember that the debate on the Lavi was not a political debate. Unfortunately it has received such treatment lately. This is a debate on the order of priorities of IDF weapons systems for better preparing the IDF for war. It is only natural that when the IDF position was expressed to the governmet, it was leaked. The IDF was attacked, but let me emphasize that I permitted the senior officers to present their opinions, not withstanding the attacks on them and the attempt to undermine the reliability of their professional judgment.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, do you accept the statement that this thing is unprecendented?

[Rabin] I do not regard things in terms of precedent for a weapons system that the IDF needs, and the question of its place within the order of priorities in the framework of a reduced budget, to become a public and political issue, as has happened in the Lavi issue. [passage omitted]

[Grossman] Mr Rabin, let us turn to our second subject. Today you are departing on an official visit to the FRG. Although many security relations have been made with West Germany, this is the first time an Israeli defense minister will be received by a German military parade. Do you regard it as a necessary diplomatic step, or do you have additional feelings about it?

[Rabin] Relations between Israel and Germany are complicated. In 1975 I held the first official visit of an Israeli prime minister to West Germany. There are two levels in bilateral relations which are by nature contradictory: We cannot forget or forgive the past, but on the other hand we must look at the present and toward the future. This trip is a return visit following that of German Defense Minister Woerner to Israel in March 1986, and is aimed at tightening relations. As is well-known, the FRG's policy is not to sell weapons to areas of tension, and the Middle East is regarded by them as a tense area. At the same time, however, there is cooperation between the industries of the two countries based upon the agreement of the political echelon. Among other things we will discuss extending this cooperation.

[Grosman] As is well-known, there are trade and arms deals between West Germany and Saudi Arabia; at least there is talk about it.

[Rabin] I do not know about it. I know for certain that West Germany does not sell weapons to areas of tension, not to Israel, not to the Arab countries.

[Grossman] Is there a market for Israeli security products in Germany? Will you make any deals there?

[Rabin] There are relations between our industries. We should

help and encourage this, especially in these difficult times.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, is it possible that you will cut your FRG visit short?

[Rabin] It has already been cut short. I am traveling for only 3 or 3 and 1/2 days.

[Grossman] Why has it been cut short?

[Rabin] I believe that on one hand it is important to hold the visit against the background of security and industrial developments in Israel. On the other hand, I think that other issues that are not directly related to these questions should be cut short so that I may return to Israel sooner.

[Grossman] Are you not excited about this visit?

[Rabin] It is not a matter of being excited. I greatly look forward to this visit. I attribute great significance to bilateral relations and to relations between the defense establishments. From my point of view this visit is very important, but I am limiting this visit to the issues directly linked to my post as defense minister.

[Grossman] Thank you Mr Defense Minister, and bon voyage.

Peres Criticizes Likud Ministers

TA071818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1605 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Report on remarks made by Shim'on Peres in Even Yehuda on 7 September during a ceremony in which he was awarded the Histadrut Dear Friend title, filed by correspondent Meron Tzur]

[Excerpt] This evening Shim'on Peres lashed out at the Likud ministers who spoke against the Cabinet decision on the Lavi project in Ari'el last night. Let those of little faith not intimidate us. They are the ones who should castigate themselves because they are responsible for what has happened with Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI], Peres said. How can they preach morals when they are the ones who ruined the economy and agriculture, he added.

[Begin Peres recording] Those who spoke against me in Ari'el yesterday were the same ones who spoke against the economic program. I do not want to mention the names of those ministers who said that Israeli streets would fill with people who were unemployed or had been laid off, that I was ruining the economy, that only dollarization would do. Have they no shame? Where is their modesty?

In spite of the fact that this decision was difficult, perhaps one of the most difficult decisions I have had to make in my life because I love IAI and its workers, in this case also we were the ones to save IAI and give it a great and appropriate future — all the reservations notwithstanding.

I heard the great speeches made in Ari'el yesterday to the effect that there are some people who are for great Zionism while there are others of little faith. True, I am not for great Zionism if this means 600 percent inflation. Is great inflation also great Zionism? Does great Zionism mean the loss of $4 billion by 600,000 to 700,000 Israelis in the bank share cash? What kind of great Zionism is that? [end recording] [passage omitted]

Leftist MK's Confer With 'Arafat in Geneva 7 Sep

TA071650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Several leftist Knesset members [MK] conferred with Yasir 'Arafat in Geneva this evening. Those attending the meeting were MK's Mati Peled and Muhammad Mi'ari [of the Progressive List for Peace] and Charlie Biton and Tawfiq Zayyad [of HADASH]. They are taking part in a convention of nongovernmental organizations on the Palestinian issue being held at the UN palace in Geneva.

Our correspondent Gid'on Kouts reports that during the meeting, 'Arafat illustrated his opposition to the Jordanian option with the help of an Israeli map of the Allon Plan. Nevertheless, he said that Israel should take part in an international peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. 'Arafat said the impression he had received from talks with representatives of the five countries was that an agreement about the configuration of such a conference would be reached in the upcoming meeting between the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister.

'Arafat Accepts UN Resolutions

TA071732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat told Israeli Knesset members [MK's] that he had decided to accept UN Resolutions 242 and 338 to refute the arguments of Israel and the United States on this issue. 'Arafat conferred with four MK's of HADASH and the Progressive List for Peace: Tawfiq Zayyad, Charlie Biton, Muhammad Mi'ari, and Mati Peled. Earlier, in a speech in Geneva, the PLO leader stated that he accepted the UN resolutions.

Our correspondent Gid'on Kouts reports that the meeting with the Israeli MK's took place in Yasir 'Arafat's suite at the Intercontinental Hotel in Geneva. 'Arafat greeted his guests with hugs and kisses. He explained to them why he objects to the Jordanian option and favors a peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Officials Reject 'Arafat Decision

TA080648 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
8 Sep 87 p 1

[Report by Benny Morris and agencies]

[Excerpts] Israeli officials unanimously dismissed PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat's reported acceptance in his speech yesterday in Geneva of UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, which imply recognition of Israel's right to exist.

Sources in both the Prime Minister's Office and in the Foreign Ministry said that Israel is "used to hearing 'Arafat speak with two voices. He has no credibility."

The Foreign Ministry sources said that often in the past 'Arafat has spoken "with one voice to Europeans and with another voice to his (Arab) constituency. His declarations (of acceptance of 242 and 338) are not to be taken seriously."

The sources in the Prime Minister's Office said that 'Arafat has often said things "to please his hearers," only to retract or qualify them immediately afterwards. [passage omitted]

'Arafat yesterday urged the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East and charged that the "fundamental obstacle" to peace in the region is "the American-Israeli stumbling block." 'Arafat said the PLO supported a conference under UN auspices "on the basis of international legality as well as the international resolutions approved by the UN relevant to the Palestinian cause and the Middle East crisis, including resolutions 242 and 338." The PLO leader said the proposed conference should be held in order "to put an end to the Israeli occupation in Lebanon, Syria and other occupied Arab territories."

Rumors on AWACS Data to Iraq Cause Concern

TA061114 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Sep 87 p 2

["Exclusive" report by U.S. correspondent Amnon Dankner]

[Text] Washington — Israeli circles expressed concern over the weekend about the possibility that Iraq will receive information collected by AWACS planes that are operated by U.S. crews in Saudi Arabia.

Recently there have been rumors in Washington that the Saudis are conveying such information to help Iraq in its war with Iran. The Israeli circles fear that this sets a precedent whereby Saudi Arabia is failing to adhere to the agreements accompanying the purchase of the AWACS planes, according to which they cannot pass on such information to a third party.

No Promise to Romania on Shortened Missile Range

TA080737 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Sep 87 p 2

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent]

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister's Office yesterday denied reports that Yitzhaq Shamir during his visit to Bucharest last month had promised Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to shorten the range of Israel's Jericho II missile so that it would be unable to hit targets in the Soviet Union. The subject, said sources in the Prime Minister's Office, never came up in the Shamir-Ceausescu talks.

The sources also denied a report — which appeared Sunday in the London edition of *Al-Qabas* — that Israel had assured the Soviet Union that it would cease further trials of the missile.

European newspapers six weeks ago reported that Israel had test-fired a prototype of the Jericho II into the Mediterranean and that the missile had the range of the Soviets' Black Sea Fleet ports, including Odessa. Subsequently, Soviet Russian and Hebrew language radio broadcasts repeatedly warned Israel against the development of the missiles and nuclear weaponry that could threaten the Soviet Union.

Foreign Ministry sources yesterday declined to relate specifically to the *Al-Qabas* reports, reiterating only the Foreign Ministry's statement last month that "Israel has never regarded the Soviet Union as an enemy" and that "it is ridiculous to think that Israel poses a threat to the Soviet Union."

But observers yesterday noted that the threatening Soviet radio transmissions stopped abruptly a few days after the Foreign Ministry statement, possibly indicating that Israel had agreed to curtail the Jericho II development in some way, or at least that it had indicated a readiness to do so under certain conditions. [passage omitted]

Accord With Hungary To Be Signed in Bern 14 Sep

TA060923 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Sep 87 pp 1, 5

[Text] Geneva (JTA) — The signing ceremony for the agreement between Hungary and Israel on the establishment of interest offices in the two countries will be held in the Swiss Foreign Ministry in Bern on 14 September.

The ceremony will be held under the auspices of Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert. Switzerland has represented Israel's interests in Hungary since the latter severed relations in 1967.

The Israeli delegation will be headed by Yesha'yahu 'Anug, assistant director general of the Foreign Ministry; and will also be attended by Victor Har'el, Foreign Ministry Legal Adviser; and David Rivlin, Israel's ambassador to Switzerland.

Jerusalem reported 2 days ago that Hungary has delayed the opening of the interest offices unexpectedly and without providing an explanation for the move.

The *Ha'aretz* political correspondent adds: The announcement made last week by Deputy Knesset Speaker Aharon Nahmias on the date of resumption of Israeli-Hungarian relations at the interest office level was the cause for the delay in the signing ceremony.

Political sources in Jerusalem said last night that Nahmias' announcement, made without coordination with Hungary upon his return from a visit to that country, annoyed the Hungarians, who consequently asked that the ceremony originally scheduled to take place in Bern tomorrow be postponed by 1 week.

London Paper Interviews King Husayn on Gulf Events

JN0608!5 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
6 Sep 87 p 18

[Text] *The Sunday Telegraph* has conducted an exclusive interview with His Majesty King Husayn in the Jordanian capital of Amman prior to his visit to Damascus and his meeting with several ministers in London. This is believed to be the first such interview by the king since the outbreak of the present crisis in the Gulf. *Al-Sha'b* carries the text of this interview in conjunction with *The Sunday Telegraph*, which is published in London today.

His Majesty King Husayn began by saying: It is important for the Arab world to take a firm stand against Iran. I strongly support any action taken by the Arab League to sever diplomatic relations, unless Iran agrees to a cease-fire by 20 September.

During this interview, which took place at the king's palace in Amman, his majesty said: We must make it clear to Iran that it cannot win this war and that the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives will not achieve anything for it.

Replying to a question on the renewed Iraqi attacks against Iranian shipping in the Gulf, his majesty asserted: As long as we have not reached a comprehensive cease-fire in the Gulf, it is not the right of any state to ask Iraq not to retaliate by striking at Iranian targets in the Gulf. Excluding Iranian targets in the Gulf from Iraqi attacks means that Iran can export more without any obstacles. It would then turn those exports into arms in order to continue the war.

His majesty added: What we want is a comprehensive cease-fire and an end to the fighting on the basis of mutual respect and noninterference by one state in the affairs of the other.

Commenting on the reflagging of Kuwaiti oil tankers under U.S. protection in the Gulf, the king stated: This is just a temporary alternative. It cannot be a long-term solution to the problem. The solution can only come by ending the war itself.

His majesty added: Yes, I believe that freedom of navigation in the Gulf is a vital necessity which must be asserted at any cost. However, it must be guaranteed for all the countries concerned, including Iraq and the Gulf states.

With regard to the participation of British, French, and U.S. ships in the sweeping of mines laid by Iran in international waters, his majesty commented: All foreign fleets have clear and specific objectives in the Gulf. If the freedom of navigation is an important objective in the short term, then the final objective must be ending this war as soon as possible.

His Majesty King Husayn disclosed that Iran constitutes a long-term threat to all the Gulf states and to the Arab states in general. He said: Of course, we are very much concerned about the intentions of Iran which, I believe, is trying to destroy Iraq because it is a strong Arab state standing in its way. By that I mean that Iraq is an obstacle to Iran's aims, which include dominating this region's resources and Islamic holy places.

His Majesty added: The events that occurred in Mecca last July — in which more than 400 pilgrims were killed by Iranian pilgrims and Iranian Revolutionary Guards — have created a state of horror in the Arab world which the 7-year-old war did not create. Iran's threat to send at least 100,000 pilgrims next year is viewed by the Arab world as an attempt to politicize the pilgrimage and to exploit the occasion to spread extremist ideas.

King Husayn said that he was greatly shocked by Iran's attempts to politicize the pilgrimage. Mecca is our sacred heart. The pilgrimage is sacred for all Muslims. His majesty added: "As the custodian of Mecca, Saudi Arabia is fully entitled to seek to prevent Iran's attempt to use the pilgrimage as a political event. The Arabs cannot but adopt the necessary measures to prevent acts of violence and anarchy in Islam's most sacred place."

The king stated: The U.S. plan to sell arms to Iran in return for the release of U.S. hostages in Beirut has harmed U.S. prestige in the region. His majesty said: In my opinion, the United States should in future try to pursue a policy that is more compatible with the principles of the United States.

His majesty continued: The efforts that are being made by the Arab world to end the Gulf war enjoy UN support in the wake of the adoption in July of Security Council Resolution No 598 which calls for a ceaase-fire. Although the unanimity of the five permanent members of the Security Council appears to be seriously shaken this week on the issue of imposing an arms embargo against the two belligerents, his majesty is still optimistic that the UN call for a cease-fire will succeed. The king asserted: In view of the various interests tied to the Gulf, perhaps Resolution No 598 is the best means upon which the Security Council could have agreed to end the war.

With regard to the convening of an international conference to be attended by the five permanent members of the Security Council and all the parties concerned, including the Soviet Union and the Palestinians, his majesty asked if the big powers are really urging Israel to agree to such a conference. He affirmed: "I believe that time is very short. If we should lose the opportunity for peace one more time, the consequences will be disastrous for the region."

Paper Reports King Husayn DIE WELT Interview

JN050745 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 5 Sep 87 p 1

[By *Jordan Times* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn Friday defended Iraq's air attacks against Iranian oil terminals and economic targets and said that an embargo on arms deliveries to Iran would be a positive step towards ending the Gulf war.

"One possibility arising from the latest resolution by the United Nations Security Council is an arms embargo against that party which refuses to accept the resolution," the King told *Die Welt*, a West German daily, in an interview published Friday. "This would be an interesting and postive element," he added.

The King said he was not sure that the Gulf problem had been tackled as it should have been from the start. "I also believe that we in the Arab world, with our conflicting positions, have to bear the main burden of responsibility (for this)," he said.

However, the King voiced optimism about Jordan's efforts to resolve the war.

In an apparent reference to his efforts to reconcile Syria with Iraq, the King said: "I have been trying for more than 15 months to improve understanding and normalise relations between the two brotherly states. I believe that this will probably succeed," he said. "This war not only affects the Gulf, but the whole region. It is not only a threat to the Arab world, it extends far beyond," he added.

"For the Arab world, moreover, the threatening conflict with Israel has to be added. But we cannot expect that the world will find a solution for us; it lies in our hands to create some kind of order in our own house."

The King said his meetings with other Arab leaders had convinced him that their greatest wish was for an end to the Gulf war.

"It has already cost too many lives, quite apart from the threat it poses for the security of the region and the whole world," he said.

Asked his thoughts on the presence of the superpowers in the Gulf, the King said he was unhappy about the latest developments.

"For example," he said, "what is it supposed to signify when people demand that Iraq punishes itself by withholding attacks on oil loading points or tankers, although it is itself prevented from using the waterways? And this, although they are involved in a war and everybody knows that the income from Iranian oil exported through the Gulf is used to buy arms to be employed in the war against Iraq.

"One cannot treat one party which continuously rejects the will of the whole world to end this war in the same way as another party which is prepared to support every initiative which could lead to peace."

The heightened tension in the Gulf and its effect on regional security figured high in His Majesty's talks with Egyptian leaders during a brief visit to Egypt on Thursday, according to officials and diplomatic sources.

The King returned home after a three-hour meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak with whom he discussed the escalating conflict in the Gulf and ways to increase support for Iraq in its war with Iran.

Egypt's Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif made clear after the meeting the two leaders were "preoccupied with the Iran-Iraq war and the effect of the war in the region." Their talks also dealt with developments regarding the Palestinian problem, Mr. al-Sharif said.

Asked if the King briefed Mr. Mubarak on the outcome of his talks on Tuesday with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Mr. al-Sharif said: "All different views about the developments in the region were discussed."

During his visit to Egypt, the King was accompanied by Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdhah who held separate talks with Egyptian Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and other top Egyptian officials.

King Husayn Leaves for 'Working Visit' to Iraq

JN061524 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman today for Baghdad on a working visit to fraternal Iraq. During the visit, His Majesty King Husayn will hold talks with his brother President Saddam Husayn on developments in the Iraq-Iran war. His Majesty will also confirm Jordan's support for fraternal Iraq and discuss ways to implement UN Security Council Resolution 598 to end this war. He will also discuss bilateral relations within the framework of joint coordination and cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

His Majesty King Husayn was seen off at Amman airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; Staff Field Marshal al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; chief of the Royal household; and the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court.

His Majesty is accompanied by an official delegation which includes Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah.

Delegation Returns 7 Sep

JN070515 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman at dawn today after a brief working visit to Baghdad. During the visit, his majesty the king held talks with his brother, His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, and senior Iraqi officials. His majesty and President Saddam Husayn also held a closed meeting at the end of the official talks, which began yesterday evening in the presence of the members of the two delegations. During the talks, the two sides reviewed the dangers and threats facing the Arab nation, particularly the Iranian aggression aimed against pan-Arab security.

President Saddam Husayn headed those who saw his majesty off. RCC members, ministers, and senior Iraqi officials were also in attendance.

His majesty the king was received upon his arrival at the airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the chief chamberlain,the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court, and a number of senior officials.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, and Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah returned home with his majesty the king.

Kuwait's Shaykh Sabah Arrives, Makes Statement
JN071533 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has expressed his country's admiration for and pride in Jordan — King, government, and people — for its courageous stand on Arab issues. Shaykh Sabah made a statement to PETRA upon arriving in Amman this afternoon for a brief working visit to Jordan.

He said that he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait. The message deals with the current Arab situation and developments in the Gulf region. He stated that his visit to Moscow, which begins tomorrow, comes at the instruction of the 7-member Arab League committee. He noted that the visit also falls within the framework of current efforts and contacts being made with the permanent members of the Security Council to pressure Iran to accept the Security Council resolution which calls for halting the Iraq-Iran war. He said that the Iranian threats to Kuwait are continuing and that the firing of Iranian missiles at Kuwaiti territory certainly constitutes a serious and worrying precedent. He added that he hoped the forthcoming visit by the UN secretary general to both Tehran and Baghdad will achieve good results.

Received by King Husayn
JN071739 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has stressed Jordan's support for the fraternal state of Kuwait in all efforts to achieve a just solution to the Gulf war in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 598.

This assertion came during His Majesty King Husayn's reception of His Highness Shaykh al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Shaykh Sabah handed his majesty the king a message from His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah dealing with current developments in the Gulf region and bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, and acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin.

Paper Notes King Husayn Talks With Syria's Al-Kasm
JN050818 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
5 Sept 87 pp 1, 4

[By *Jordan Times* staff reporter]

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn on Friday received Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm. During the meeting, which was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Dr. al-Kasm and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i briefed the King on an agreement signed between Jordan and Syria to build a dam across the Al-Yarmuk river.

The agreement which Dr. al-Kasm and Mr. al-Rifa'i signed on Thursday, provides for Jordan to construct a dam near Al-Maqarin station to utilise water from the Al-Yarmuk River.

Also present at the king's meeting with Dr. Al-Kasm, which included a working lunch, were Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zaid, Jordan's Ambassador to Syria 'Ali Khurays and Syria's Ambassador to Jordan Majid Abu Salih.

According to the agreement signed Thursday the "Al-Wahdah" (unity) dam will irrigate land and generate power for both countries.

Official sources contacted by the *Jordan Times* on Friday said the rough estimation of the dam's cost...reaches JD [Jordanian Dinars] 80 million...but new, updated feasibility studies are to be conducted.

The sources said a draft plan for the dam estimated its height between 100-115 metres instead of an earlier estimate of 150 metres.

In an article published recently in the Arabic press, Engineer Suwaylam Haddad, who has been closely associated with the plan, said that according to an American company, which was about to implement the dam in 1955, the dam, which aimed at conserving rain water will irrigate 520,000 dunum of land in both the East and West Banks of Jordan.

Furthermore, Mr. Haddad said, hydroelectric stations which could be built near the dam could provide an annual 20,000 kilowatts of electricity. In his article Mr. Haddad described the project as an effort "to use this wasted treasure."

But despite the high appraisal of the project, whether by Jordanian or international experts, the new agreement indicated the most serious and explicit and practical step so far to implement the long-delayed project.

Dr. al-Kasm arrived here on Thursday. On Friday Mr. al-Rifa'i accompanied Dr. al-Kasm to a visit to Petra.

During a rest at a bedouin tent set up by Petra residents to receive Dr. al-Kasm, a Petra resident presented a token gift to Dr. al-Kasm.

At the Petra Rest House, Minister of Tourism and Information Muhammad al-Khatib presented a replica of the Petra treasury to the Syrian premier.

Dr. al-Kasm is due to wind up his three-day visit on Saturday.

On his visit to Jordan Dr. al-Kasm is accompanied by Mr. 'Abd al-Rahman al-Madani, minister of irrigation, Mr. Antoine Jubran, minister of state for the Syrian People's Council affairs, Mr. 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs and a group of Syrian officials.

Delegation Departs 5 Sep
JN050932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and his accompanying delegation left Amman this morning after a 3-day official visit to Jordan. During the visit, Al-Kasm met with His Majesty King Husayn and held talks with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and a number of senior officials. Dr al-Kasm and Al-Rifa'i signed an agreement to build the Al-Wahdah Dam between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the SAR. The dam will use the waters of the Al-Yarmuk River. Dr al-Kasm also held talks to strengthen the existing bilateral cooperation and to promote this cooperation in all fields in the interests of the peoples of the two fraternal countries.

Dr al-Kasm was seen off at Amman airport by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, ministers, the Amman governor, the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus, the Syrian ambassador in Amman, and a number of senior civilian and military officials.

FRG's Klein, Delegation Depart Amman 3 Sep
JN030900 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Hans Klein, FRG minister of economic cooperation, and his accompanying delegation left Amman this morning following a 4-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, the minister met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, and other ranking officials. He reviewed with them some current political issues, particularly those related to the Middle East crisis and the international efforts to resolve it. He also discussed ways to bolster bilateral economic cooperation and signed an agreement under which the German Government will extend a DM17 million loan to finance development projects initiated by rural and urban councils.

Saudi Interior Minister Arrives in Amman 7 Sep
JN071851 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] His Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, interior minister and chairman of the Higher Information Council in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Amman this evening. He is on a 3-day visit to Jordan. He will meet with His Majesti King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, and Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i. His highness will also hold talks with Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani on a number of issues of mutual interest.

His highness was received at the airport by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani, the Amman governor, the directors of public security and civil defense, the Saudi ambassador in Amman, and a number of senior civilian and military officials.

His highness is accompanied by a delegation composed of Dr 'Abd al-Rahman al-Jammal, an adviser at the Saudi Interior Ministry, and Ahmad al-Shawi, director of his highness' office.

Meets With King Husayn
JN071950 Amman Television Service in English
1900 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] His Majesty the king received at Al-Nadwah Palace this evening Saudi minister of interior Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. At the meeting, they exchanged views on current developments in the Gulf region and efforts to bring the Gulf war to an end. They also reviewed the two countries' endeavors to achieve Arab solidarity and bolster bilateral ties. The meeting included a dinner which was hosted by his majesty in honor of the Saudi minister. It was attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Chief of the Royal Court Marwan al-Qasim; Minister of Court 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Field Marshal al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the Armed Forces Commander in Chief; Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani, the Jordanian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and the Saudi ambassador in Amman.

Waite Reportedly Killed in Escape Attempt

JN081504 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic
7 Sep 87 pp 1, 17

[Excerpts] Beirut — In an exciting interview with *Al-Siyasah*, Joseph al-Hashim, Lebanese minister of health and member of the Phalangist Party Political Bureau, has stated for the first time that the situation in Lebanon requires that the Syrian forces remain until the nation regains sovereignty over all its territory. Joseph al-Hashim affirmed to *Al-Siyasah* that Israel and Syria cannot be dealt with on an equal footing because the ties between the Phalangist Party and Syria are deep, firm, and historical. Syria is a sisterly country as well, he added. [passage omitted]

In another development, *Al-Siyasah* has received very special information from the Lebanese Armed Forces to the effect that the Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite was shot dead when he attempted to escape from his abductors. Terry Waite went from Beirut to the Al-Biqa' plain to talk with the kidnappers holding foreign hostages. However, he noticed that the car in which he was riding had turned off on a side road. Waite realized that he was being kidnapped and he tried to escape. His abductors fired at him to prevent him from escaping. Unfortunately, Waite was shot in the head and died instantly.

This information has been communicated to John Gray, the British ambassador to Lebanon, who continues to believe that Terry Waite is still alive despite his serious wounds. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Release of FRG Hostage Schmidt

Decision on Release Made

NC070513 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0415 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The kidnappers of the two German hostages have announced that FRG hostage Alfred Schmidt will be released within the next few hours. In a statement typewriten in Arabic and sent to a foreign news agency Sunday night, the Strugglers for Freedom pointed out that the decision had been made after the group had received assurances and guarantees that serve the interests of both sides within the framework of an agreed program.

Released 7 Sep

NC070859 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 Gmt 7 Sep 87

[Text] According to security sources, FRG hostage Alfred Schmidt was released at dawn today. A local news agency reports that someone calling on behalf of the Strugglers for Freedom organization has telephoned the agency and informed it of the release which took place in a West Beirut suburb at 0400 today.

AFP had earlier cited the FRG television network (ARB) correspondent in the Middle East as saying that Syrian Information Minister Yasin Rajjuh had told reporters in the Syrian capital this morning that Schmidt would be released soon.

An AFP photographer has pointed out that he saw a blue Opel in front of the Summerland Hotel this morning. There were four passengers in the car, one of whom was blindfolded. The Opel was followed by a white Mercedes. The two cars stopped in front of the hotel for a few moments and then left in the direction of the southern suburb [of Beirut].

'Pressure' From Syria, Iran

LD070933 Hamburg DPA in German 0857 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Bonn/Beirut (DPA) — According to circles in the official *National News Agency*, someone telephoned the agency today to say that Schmidt had been released early in the morning in a Beirut suburb.

According to these reports, the caller stated that he was speaking on behalf of the "Freedom Fighters," a group which had claimed responsibility for the abduction of Schmidt and Rudolf Cordes. He said: "Alfred Schmidt was released in the suburbs of Beirut at 0100 Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)." He did not give any further details.

Observers assume that Schmidt will probably return to the Federal Republic before today is out.

According to DPA's information, Schmidt's release is attributable to the "hard pressure" of the Syrians and Iran.

Nothing has been made known about a possible release of Rudolf Cordes. No details of his fate could be obtained. [passage omitted]

Condition Fit; Iran Contacts FRG

LD071034 Hamburg DPA in German 0953 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Bonn/Beirut (DPA) — [Released Siemens technician] Schmidt is in good physical condition, according to DPA's information.

As has been learned from reliable sources, the Iranian Foreign Ministry informed the German ambassador in Tehran last night that Schmidt would be handed over to the German ambassador in Damascus by the Syrians today.

An anonymous telephone call to the official *National News Agency* on behalf of the abductors came this morning a few hours after eyewitnesses saw two cars, a white Mercedes and a blue Opel in which armed and bearded men were sitting, near the Beirut Summerland Hotel by the sea. According to the witnesses, a man whose eyes were covered was in the Opel. The two cars were driving in the direction of the Shi'ite-controlled southern suburbs of Beirut. Minutes later, a car of the Syrian secret service was observed driving at great speed in the direction of the Syrian headquarters, which is situated in the district of Ramat Al-Bayda [name as received] in the Muslim western part of Beirut.

Further Details of Release
NC070919 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0905 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] We have just received the following report from our news desk:

An unknown person contacted us at the NNA offices at 1000 and claimed to be speaking on behalf of the Strugglers for Freedom organization. He said that German hostage Alfred Schmidt was released in a West Beirut area at 0400 today. Meanwhile, we telephoned the German Embassy in East Beirut. An embassy spokesman disclosed that the German hostage is expected to arrive at the embassy in Juniyah.

However, internal security sources have not yet confirmed that the German hostage has been released. Syrian security sources have declared that they expect the hostage to arrive [at a Syrian center] at any moment.

Arrives in Damascus
LD070944 Hamburg DPA in German 0935 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Bonn (DPA) — Alfred Schmidt is already at the FRG Embassy in Damascus. This has been confirmed to DPA by a spokesman at the Foreign Ministry in Bonn.

Leaves Damascus; No Ransom Paid
NC071225 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1205 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] FRG Ambassador to Lebanon Antonius Eitel is still unaware of the news of the release of West German hostage Alfred Schmidt. A spokesman for the FRG Foreign Ministry in Bonn has declared that Alfred Schmidt was released this morning and that he is currently at the FRG Embassy in Damascus.

Diplomatic and media sources confirmed Schmidt's release at 1000 this morning, when he was handed over to the German Embassy in Beirut from where he left for his country's embassy in Damascus. He subsequently boarded a plane in the Syrian capital that was bound for his homeland.

The Siemens Company which employs Schmidt emphasized that neither it nor the hostage's family had paid any ransom for his release.

Kidnapped Italian Citizen Released 5 Sep
NC050914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
901 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Joseph Khuri, an Italian national of Lebanese origin, who was kidnapped last Monday [August 31], was released at 1145 this morning. Khuri held a news conference at the Amal Movement's office which Italian Ambassador Antonio Mancini attended. Also in attendance was Dr Hasan Yusuf, the Amal official in charge of external affairs, who handed over the kidnapped person. He declared that Amal has always opposed kidnappings.

Amal Secures Release
NC051003 Paris AFP in English 0949 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Beirut, Sept 5 (AFP) -- A 21-year-old Italian, Joseph Khuri, said he was freed here Saturday through the help of the Shi'ite Amal militia after having been kidnapped five days earlier near a West Beirut cinema.

Mr. Khuri told *Agence France-Presse* that he was held captive in the mostly Moslem sector of the Lebanese capital after his captors had found he was carrying an Italian passport.

He did not specify how Amal had helped secure his release or the identity of his captors.

Mr. Khuri, whose father is Lebanese and whose mother runs the Italian Cultural Centre in West Beirut, said he was kidnapped Monday by a group of young men while leaving the El Dorado Cinema, in the once-fashionable Al-Hamra district.

Another Italian, Alberto Molinari, a 67-year-old businessman, disappeared in West Beirut on September 11, 1985.

Glass Release Followed 'Syrian-Iranian Deal'
NC041757 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1545 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] The magazine *Al-Masirah*, citing security and diplomatic sources, reports in tomorrow's edition that American journalist Charles Glass was released after a Syrian-Iranian deal had been concluded. The agreement provides for the following conditions:

A) Syrian permission for a 23-ton shipment of arms to be delivered to Hizballah in Lebanon;

B) The release of 50 fundamentalist detainees held in Syrian jails; and

C) An end to frenzied statements and threats to enter Hizballah strongholds in Lebanon, particularly the southern suburb [of Beirut].

Israeli Warplanes Fly Over Beirut 5 Sep
NC050959 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes have broken the sound barrier over Beirut twice since 1045 this morning, causing sonic booms.

Two Israeli gunboats were sighted off the Al-Zahrani coast south of Sidon this morning.

Raid Palestinian Targets

NC050857 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0850 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Four Israeli aircraft carried out three air raids against the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, the Maghdushah Hills, the Sayniq Road intersection, Tallat Sirub, and the vegetable market in Saydah al-Jadidah between 1020 and 1050 today. The raids hit Palestinian targets and positions held by Amal and the Popular Nasirite Organization. According to available information, the raids caused extensive property damage. Ambulances rushed to the bombed areas where several fires had broken out.

Israeli warplanes carried out intensive reconnaisance flights over Sidon and southern Lebanon after the raids. The warplanes broke the sound barrier over Beirut at 1045.

Preliminary Casualty Figures

NC051038 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] According to security sources in the south, a preliminary count of casualties lists 25 dead and 40 others injured as a result of three successive Israeli air raids on Palestinian positions near Sidon. These sources note that a number of boys and women are among the casualties. They also report that a large number of people are still missing under the rubble of the areas bombed by Israeli aircraft for 20 minutes. The raids concentrated on two buildings manned by Fatah, the Revolutionary Council led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna].

It was later reported that a two-story building on Sayniq Bridge was completely destroyed, killing dozens of people and injuring a large number of others. Rescue work is continuing amid the fires which have broken out in the bombed areas.

Further on Casualties

NC050948 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0924 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] The three Israeli air raids on positions in southern Sidon and the southwestern 'Ayn al-Hulwah outskirts resulted in several casualties who have been moved to hospitals. The dead are Na'im Yasin; Aminah Qablawi; Abu Jihad, whose other names are not known; Sahar 'Abd al-Raziq; Muhammad Rashid Ibrahim; Muhammad 'Azziyah; 'Ali al-Khatib; Zahra, whose other names are not known; Riyad al-Haybah; and another unidentified body.

The wounded who were moved to Hammud Hospital include Yusuf Fadil, Michel George, 'Izz al-Din Ju'aytu, Sa'd Nimr 'Isa, Ahmad Karim, Hani Khudari, Kamil Salim, Nadir Qablawi, Ahmad 'Ali Mustafa Dawud, Marwan Mahdawi, Muhammad Ibrahim, Nayifah al-Sa'i', and Hani Yusuf. The wounded who have been taken to Sh'Ayb Hospital are Mahfuz Rahmah, Ghassan Qaddurah, Nazim Husayn, Sami Diyab, Sa'd al-'Ali, Rasmiyyah 'Azzam, and Salim al-Khatib. Other casualties have been moved to other hospitals.

It is worth mentioning that the Israeli military aircraft carried out their raids today despite the fact that it is a Saturday, a day on which it is rare for their military aircraft to fly. The second raid was carried out when an ambulance was on its way to remove the casualties.

It has been learned that the raids were carried out by approximately 12 planes, 4 Skyhawks and 8 Phantoms.

PFLP-GC Says 50 Killed

NC051046 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Following the Israeli raids today, the PFLP-GC issued a statement saying that the targets of the raids were residential areas in 'Ayn al-Hulwah. The statement added that the raids resulted in the martyrdom of 50 civilians and the wounding of a large number of other persons.

Palestinian Source Estimates

NC051639 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] According to a Palestinian spokesman, 41 people were killed and 40 others wounded in the three raids which Israeli warplanes launched against the outskirts of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp between 1020 and 1040 today.

Casualty Toll 113

NC061033 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] According to a report from Sidon, the number of persons killed in the Israeli raid has risen to 46 following the discovery of 8 more bodies under the debris last night. In addition, the number of wounded persons has risen to 67. News agency correspondents have reported that a general strike has been observed in 'Ayn al-Hulwah in mourning of the victims. Black flags can be seen on deserted streets and mosques in Sidon.

Beirut To Complain to UN

NC051931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] It has been learned from circles near acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss that Lebanon has decided to submit a complaint against Israel to the UN Security Council in response to the air raids today on eastern Sidon, which have caused a number of casualties. The acting prime minister met at his home today with Brigadier General 'Umar Makhzumi, the acting director general of the Internal Security Forces, to discuss this move.

Israeli Mock Raids Reported in South 7 Sep

NC071034 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1015 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] News from the south indicates that Israeli warplanes have been conducting continuous flights over the region since last night. Enemy planes conducted sorties in the south at 1105 today. These planes were seen again at 1140 over Sidon and the nearby Palestinian camps carrying out mock raids. The aircraft are still flying over the area.

Israeli Gunboats Shell Coast South of Sidon

NC061104 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1103 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] According to reports from southern Lebanon, Israel gunboats have been bombarding the coast south of Sidon for some time now.

Amal Forces Open Fire

NC061132 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1127 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Israeli gunboats cruised the southern coast between Al-Naqurah and Tyre from 0800 to 1330 today. Amal Movement sources have reported that Amal forces confronted the Israeli gunboats, opening medium- and small-caliber machinegun fire in their direction. The Israeli gunboats returned the fire.

Sirens Sound as Israeli Aircraft Fly Over Sidon

NC061858 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Israeli warplanes have been making frequent flights over Sidon, its neighboring camps, and Lib'a, 'Ayn al-Mir, and Kafr Falus, east of Sidon, since 2030 tonight. The aircraft have fired many flares. Sirens have sounded in Sidon and the camps for fear of a new raid.

In addition to the overflights, Israeli gunboats can be seen off the southern coast.

Israel 'Annexing' Territory in Border Area

NC071330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Israel has been annexing Lebanese territory on the Lebanese-Israeli border since noon today. Using four bulldozers, the territory which is being annexed is part of 'Alma, a town of 4,000 inhabitants, and is 15 km long and extends 8 km deep inside Lebanese territory.

The NNA correspondent in Tyre reports that inhabitants of 'Alma have gathered around the bulldozers in an attempt to prevent the Israelis from carrying out their task. Israel had recently declared this area to be a military zone of the Israeli Army in order to pave the way for fencing it with barbed wire.

Islamic Resistance Fires Rockets at Galilee Area

NC071545 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] An Islamic Resistance group fired Katyusha rockets at the occupied western Upper Galilee area at 0400 this morning. Some rockets hit the enemy's settlements. A spokesman for the Islamic Resistance said that this shelling was in retaliation for the Israeli air raids on the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. He added that the occupation forces, using helicopters, mounted a wide-scale search campaign immediately after the shelling and that a member of the resistance was injured.

Amal Executes Killers of Army Captain 8 Sep

NC080642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] The Amal Movement carried out death sentences against Ahmad al-Jamal, Haytham Lutfi Ma'ruf, Mahmud 'Abd al-Rahman Marshud, Ahmad Qahwaji, and Wisam Fadl Jawdah in the Al-Bawwabah district in Tyre at dawn today. The condemned persons had admitted murdering Lebanese Army Captain Kazim Darwish; Butrus Abu 'Aql, principal of Qadmus School; and several members of political parties, with the aim of creating confusion in the Tyre area.

'Severe Tension' Follows

NC081011 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] There is severe tension in the Tyre area, where Palestinians cut a number of roads this morning to protest the Amal Movement's execution of three Palestinians and two Sunnite Lebanese in the Al-Bawwabah neighborhood of Tyre at dawn today. According to Amal sources, the five persons were executed for murdering Army officer Kazim Darwish, Wadmus School Principal Butrus Abu 'Aql, and a number of party officials in the south.

In the meantime, there is still tension along the combat lines in southeast Sidon, particularly on the Al-Shawakir and Al-Ghaziyah lines, where sniper fire is being exchanged between Amal gunmen and Palestinians.

Armenian Tashnag Party Member Killed in Beirut

NC071932 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] According to a security report, tension is high in the Al-Nab'ah area [of East Beirut] this evening, following clashes which broke out earlier between Lebanese Forces personnel and Armenian gunmen after the killing of a Tashnag [Armenian Party] official on the Jall al-Dib-Antilyas highway as he was passing there in his car in the company of a woman, who was wounded.

Security sources say that two persons were injured during the clashes between Armenian gunmen and members of the Leb-

anese Forces security police.

'Big' Explosion in Tripoli; Clash Casualties

NC050928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] A big explosion occurred in the Al-Baddawi area [in Tripoli] moments before 1000 this morning. Clashes took place earlier in the same area between gunmen from the Arab Socialist Party and other gunmen, leaving one dead and four injured.

Tripoli Clashes End

NC051127 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] The clashes which took place in the area extending between the Al-Harah al-Jadidah [quarter] in the Al-Baddawi camp and Al-Mallulah in Tripoli have stopped. According to a security report, the fighting broke out between the Arab Democratic Party and unidentified gunmen in the above-mentioned area at 0630. The main road was cut before being reopened at 0845. The clashes left five persons dead. They are Muhammad Mahmud al-'Abdallah and his son Ahmad; Khalid al-Ahmad, whose nationality has not yet been determined; Palestinian national Mahmud al-Hindawi; and Lebanese citizen Muhammad Khalid Ahmad. 'Imad Bahjat al-Qarhani, Ahmad al-Qarhani, and Khalid 'Abbas were wounded in the fighting.

Two Kidnapped MEA Employees Released 5 Sep

NC051230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] According to security sources, two employees of the Middle East Airline company [MEA] Antoine 'Isa and Zaynun Sa'adah, were kidnapped in front of the Al-Atat gasoline station at 1330 today. The same sources disclosed that the two employees were released approximately 15 minutes ago.

Nepalese UNIFIL Soldier Wounded in South

NC050542 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] A Nepalese UNIFIL soldier was shot and wounded near the approach to the town of Zibqin, which is within the Amal Movement's sphere of influence.

3 Palestinians Killed in Clashes With Amal 7 Sep

NC080601 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] The combat lines around the camps in the Sidon area continue to be tense following an exchange of gunfire between Amal and the Palestinians last night. The fighting took place along the Mariyah-al-Ghaziyah-al-Shawakir combat lines. Amal has announced that its fighters repulsed a Palestinian attempt to advance on its positions on the Al-Shawakir-al-Ghaziyah axis. The movement added that it killed three Palestinians in the clashes which lasted until a late hour yesterday.

SSNP Accuses Al-Mahayri Group of Ongoing Attacks

NC081017 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Excerpts] The official in charge of information in the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] has issued a statement which says: The residence of 'Amin al-Da'uq, the SSNP official responsible for defense, in Al-Murayjat was attacked yesterday when dissident SSNP gangs led by 'Isam al-Mahayri fired a rocket at it. The rocket caused extensive property damage but no member of the defense official's family was hurt. [passage omitted]

The statement continues: On Saturday, 5 September, a gang led by the dissident group's military official, who is referred to as the captain, assassinated Comrade Ghassan al-Bazzal, the SSNP official in charge of training in northern Al-Biqa' in the Ba'labakk area.

The statement says: The SSNP welcomed and appreciated the Syrian efforts, supervised by Vice President 'Abd al- Halim Khaddam. These efforts led to an agreement providing for the restoration of the situation to what it was before the treacherous assault on the party's positions in Al- Kurah, a return to the positions previously held by the SSNP and the dissidents, a halt to media attacks, and an end to all signs of troop alert and mobilization. However, the SSNP declares that the dissident party is not committed to the implementation of this agreement. It continues to carry out armed assaults on the SSNP's leaders and officials and insists on prolonging tension. It is not restrained by any sense of national or moral responsibility which would require that all efforts be directed against the Zionist enemy and its isolationist Phalangist agents, who entertain schemes for the partition and fragmentation of the country and wish to see it take on a Zionist character. [passage omitted]

Hizballah, Amal Clash in Al-Nabatiyah

NC071657 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Clashes between Hizballah and Amal gunmen took place in Al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa in southern Lebanon this afternoon. The fighting erupted after Hizballah gunmen stormed the home of an Amal official in the area. Two Amal gunmen were wounded, according to reports.

'Problem' Reportedly Contained

NC072015 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The Fifth Branch of the Amal Movement's Central Military Office has reported that the security problem which occurred between elements of Amal and Hizballah in Al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa at 1730 this afternoon has been settled. According to the report, efforts are continuing to fully calm the

situation.

An Amal security source has declared that the problem arose when a Hizballah group stormed the home of the Amal organizational official in Al-Nabatiyah al-Fawqa. After the raid, gunmen were alerted and a clash broke out inside the town, during which two Amal members were slightly injured.

Iran Reportedly Increases Funds for Hizballah

NC041702 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] According to information available to Voice of Lebanon, Iran last week allocated additional funds to Hizballah amounting to $3 million a month. The money will be used to recruit 25,000 fighters, who will each be paid $100 a month.

Syrians Provide Buffer Between SSNP Factions

NC041406 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] According to the latest security report from Al-Kurah this afternoon, Syrian Arab forces have intervened to halt the fighting between two factions of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP], acting as a buffer between the warring parties in Fi', Tannurin, and Diddah.

NNA correspondents in the north have reported that the clashes have subsided on all combat lines except Diddah, where fighting continues. Citizens have left the scene for more secure areas.

Further Details on Fighting

NC041716 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Excerpts] According to a security report from Al-Kurah, Syrian Arab forces have intervened in clashes between Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] factions led by 'Isam al-Mahayri and Jubran Juraysh, acting as a buffer in Fi', Tannurin, and Diddah.

At midday internal security sources reported that Al-Mahayri's followers had overrun all the positions held by Juraysh's fighters. [passage omitted]

According to security souces, 6 were killed and 21 wounded in today's fighting.

Resistance Launches Series of Attacks in South

NC051542 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Resistance fighters have carried out a series of heroic attacks on the Zionist occupation forces and the militias of agent Lahd. At dawn today a resistance group shelled a position held by Lahd agents in Tallat Marus, near Jazzin, with Katyushas. They scored direct hits, damaging a vehicle and wounding a militiaman. Immediately afterward the agent militias combed the surrounding areas.

Another group has attacked a Lahd patrol on the Bint-Jubayl-Haddathah road, destroying an armored vehicle and injuring one militiaman. The Lahd radio admitted the two attacks, claiming as usual that none of its fighters had been hurt. The radio admitted that a Zionist soldier was seriously wounded this morning.

In another development, a roadside bomb has damaged a Zionist vehicle on the Bayt Yahun-Bra'shit road. The vehicle was totally destoyed and a Zionist soldier was wounded.

A resistance group has attacked a Lahd position on the Tayr Harfa-(al-Wuddawi) road. The group fired rockets and machineguns at the position for 10 minutes, destroying a vehicle. Some time later the same group renewed the attack, using 107-mm rockets and causing casualties. The number of casualties could not be determined due to the security cordon imposed by the militiamen, who also conducted searches in the area. The Lahd radio has admitted the operation but claimed that no casualties had been sustained.

Amal Leader Birri Denies Criticizing Iran

NC041637 Beirut Voice of National Resistance
in Arabic 1430 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Excerpts] Amal leader Minister Nabih Birri is continuing his tour of southern Lebanon. He inspected Al-Nabatiyah and Al-Zahrani Districts yesterday and today, accompanied by Amal Political Bureau member Dawud Dawud, Mahmdud Faqih, and a number of Amal leaders in the south. Birri met with the Lebanese Army Command in the south,as well as with leaders of Amal's regular army in the area. [passage omitted]

Minister Birri also visited [name indistinct] and Jibshit, where he was given a warm welcome. He spoke to citizens gathered there, saying: The land of Karbala' is not better than Jibshit or the land of my brothers and my sons [martyrs] Bilal Fahs and Shaykh Raghib Harb. [passage omitted]

Birri added: I declare in the name of Bilal that we are the sons of Imam al-Adr. We have the right to put religion first, above all, and then politics and war. We are the sons of 'Ali and Musa al-Sadr. Minister Birri said: A conspiracy is being planned. They say that Nabih Birri has criticized the Islamic Republic of Iran. We are Khomeyni's sons; we are the ones who supported Imam Khomeyni's revolution when it started. We supported it in adversity, and we will continue to support it in adversity. We leave it to others to profit from other parties.

Birri added: From here in Jibshit I convey a message to my master and imam, the great Imam Khomeyni: They are trying to divide your Shi'ites and find a place where they can achieve their goals. 'Arafat has entered the fray from one direction, and Al-Qadhdhafi from another.

Birri declared: My Imam Master, this is our message to you on the occasion of 'Ashura' and from the land of Karbala'. I appeal to you to send an investigating committee, under your

personal authority, to discover the true situation in Lebanon. During the Israeli occupation the Amal Movement was the first party to raise Imam Khomeyni's portrait in Beirut and the south. It is the party of God. No, my Master the Imam, we do not accept the Libyan news agency carrying reports [about Amal], citing the Iranian news agency. No, my Master the Imam, we are your sons; we belong to you. This south is yours. It is the offspring of your son, Musa al- Sadr. [passage omitted]

Birri Proposes Plan To Resolve Camps Issue
NC041654 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Voice of Lebanon has learned that Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has submitted a plan to resolve the camps issue. The plan calls for the establishment of joint observation posts manned by representatives of Amal, the Palestinians, the Lebanese Army, and the Syrian Army. It also calls for the lifting of the siege on the camps and for the resurrection of the Higher Lebanese-Palestinian Committee. This committee was dissolved in 1965 when the PLO was recognized as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Birri's plan also proposes the reconstruction of the camps and their environs with Palestinian funds.

DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah and Fatah official Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] have approved the plan.

Birri Returns to Beirut, Meets Officials
NC051135 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Upon his return to Beirut this morning, Minister Nabih Birri went immediately to the Ja'farite Mufti's office. During the meeting, Mufti 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan and Birri reviewed conditions in the south and current political and economic developments.

Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni received Minister Nabih Birri at 1230. During their 90-minute meeting, which took place prior to the speaker's scheduled departure for Damascus, they exchanged views on living and political conditions.

Minister Birri called on Prime Minister Salim al-Huss at 1330.

Speaker al-Husayni Leaves for Damascus
NC051146 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Excerpt] Speaker Husayn al-Husayni departed Beirut for Damascus at noon today for a visit which seeks to discuss all aspects of the Lebanese crisis. The talks during this visit will also examine the possibility of stimulating efforts to end the stalemate in the Lebanese situation. Prior to his departure, Al-Husayni was contacted by acting Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din. [passage omitted]

Al-Jumayyil Returns From Francophone Conference
NC070536 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil returned to Lebanon early today after participating in the Francophone conference in Quebec.

Hamiyah Visits Tehran Amid Amal 'Power Struggle'
NC051630 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] In connection with a power struggle within the Amal Movement, well-informed West Beirut sources say that the rift between 'Aql Hamiyah, Amal's military leader, and the leadership of the Movement is almost complete. The sources link this development with Hamiyah's current visit to Tehran. The sources say Hamiyah met with the Iranian ambassador to Syria early this week in Damascus and then left for Iran.

These sources have also disclosed that some members of the Al-Dirani family, who were responsible for the death of Hamiyah's brother, planted a bomb in Hamiyah's residence in Al-Raml al-'Ali a few days ago after learning of Hamiyah's breach with Amal. The Amal Movement is afraid that after his contacts in Tehran Hamiyah might rise to a senior position in Hizballah. Hamiyah's supporters are also being harassed by mainstream Amal members.

It is also being said that Hamiyah's supporters had been holding a foreign hostage but recently handed him over to a pro-Iranian group in Lebanon.

Amal: Report 'Nonsense'
NC061135 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1015 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Statement issued by the Fifth Branch of the Amal Movement's Central Military Office on 6 September]]

[Text] Some suspect radios are spreading false and fabricated reports aimed at harming the fateful unity among the Amal Movement's leadership and the popular base. The latest report being disseminated by these radios claims that Brother 'Aql Hamiyah, the Amal Movement's military official, has left the movement.

In the absence of the brother military official, we can only give scant attention to this nonsense. The reason for his absence from the homeland and his failure to participate with his brothers in the festivals honoring the absent leader imam, His Eminence Musa al-Sadr, is the fact that the brother and his parents are carrying out their religious duty of visiting the Imam 'Ali ibn Musa al-Rida,peace be with him, [shrine] in Mashhad on the occasion of 'Ashura'. He will return soon to refute the allegations of the liars.

Libya Said To Support National Movement Revival

NC041727 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] According to information available to Voice of Lebanon, at a recent meeting in Libya it was agreed to revive the Lebanese National Movement, whose members will include [PSP leader] Walid Junblatt, [Al-Murabitun leader] Ibrahim Qulaylat, [Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General] George Hawi, and [Lebanese Communist Action Organization Secretary General] Muhsin Ibrahim. The latter's name was not publicized because it could antagonize the Syrians.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has allocated $1.5 million for the revival of the movement. As a compensation for his exclusion from the movement, 'Asim Qansuh [secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon] will receive $75,000 a month.

Attempt To 'Assassinate' Dany Sham'un Reported

NC051122 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Excerpt] There have been two attempts on the life of National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un in East Beirut during the past few days. In one of these attempts, his car was followed, but he managed to escape his pursuers. The attempts to assassinate Sham'un are part of the campaign being waged by the Lebanese Forces on those Maronite figures who present themselves as possible candidates for the coming presidential elections. The Lebanese Forces, particularly following the recent Bikfayya rally, are determined to eliminate any competition to their own presidential candidate, Samir Ja'ja'.

Sources in East Beirut, however, believe that the incidents were meant as a last warning by the Lebanese Forces to Sham'un that he should reverse his recent rapprochement with PSP leader Walid Junblatt. The rapprochement could win Sham'un support among Christians who had fled the mountain areas [now controlled by Junblatt] and who blame Ja'ja' for their current predicament. [passage omitted]

Syrians Unearth 'Sabotage Network' in Beirut

JN060802 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 3 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] The newspaper *Al-Ittihad Al-Usbu'i* has learned from a highly placed security source that the Syrian forces in Beirut last night arrested nine members of a sabotage network linked to a Lebanese Forces security organ. This network was given the task of carrying out explosions and political assassinations in West Beirut. The source pointed out that three of those arrested are soldiers in the Lebanese Army; one of them is a sergeant. They have confessed that four booby-trapped cars were infiltrated into West Beirut in the past 2 days. These cars were set to explode in a number of West Beirut streets in the first half of September to coincide with the assassination of some political leaders.

The source added that the Syrian forces, along with the Lebanese internal security forces, are carrying out extensive combing operations in search of the four booby- trapped cars.

Ja'ja' Adviser Rejects Transitional Government

NC062000 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Dr Tawfiq al-Hindi, political adviser to Lebanese Forces Commander Samir 'Ja'ja, has affirmed that the Lebanese Forces reject the idea of a transitional government, maintaining that its objective is to isolate the president of the Republic, transfer the political decisionmaking process to the occupied areas, and permit Syrian supervision of the presidential elections.

Dr al-Hindi said the president's position at the Francophone conference marked a significant turning point and an extremely important, objective development. He predicted that this position will create a new political situation.

Qansuh on Liberation, Unification Front Meeting

NC070814 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Excerpts] The leaders of the Liberation and Unification Front have held their first meeting since the establishment of the front was announced late last June. The meeting, which convened at the residence of deputy PSP leader Muhsin Dallul at 2000, concluded at a late hour last night. [passage omitted]

In his capacity as the front's secretary general, 'Asim Qansuh made a statement at 2345. He said: We have embarked upon building the front as an important and principal base. Duties will be assigned after being approved by the General Assembly. We have also discussed the major points of the organizational structure of the front, which will examine the various economic, military, educational, and public service domains.

The front's secretary general has been assigned the task of drawing up the final formula of the organizational structure. This formula will be presented to the General Assembly within 10 days.

Qansuh added that the front's members discussed Lebanese-Palestinian relations. He said that Eng Mustafa Sa'd has been asked to invite any Palestinian officials, particularly those from the popular committees in the camps, for a meeting at his residence in Sidon on Wednesday. The meeting will be chaired by Eng Sa'd and will be attended by a delegation of the front. The conferees will discuss Minister Nabih Birri's initiative, which the front has highly appraised. The front has decided to adopt the initiative and to participate in the [Palestinian-Lebanese] negotiations. Qansuh disclosed that the two sides will release all of the persons they are detaining soon.

The front denounced the Israeli air strikes on 'Ayn al- Hulwah camp and viewed them as a desperate attempt to disrupt the Lebanese-Palestinian negotiations. The front will send a delegation on a visit to the positions which were raided in order to take the necessary steps to confront any new Israeli attack.

The front held an in-depth discussion of the economic situation and the tragic living conditions. It reached two decisions to confront the problems; namely, to form a Higher Economic Committee to prepare reports and necessary studies to resolve the economic problem, and to make important decisions on the basis of those findings.

Qansuh noted that the front has decided to support the national conference and will attend it within a unified delegation in accordance with its declared program.

Released Hostage Schmidt Interviewed in Damascus

JN071838 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Alfred Schmidt, an engineer employed by Siemens and one of the West German hostages being held in Lebanon, was released today. He was accompanied to Damascus by Syrian security officials and handed over to the West German ambassador there.

A special plane from the FRG Air Force — with the FRG deputy interior minister and other West German officials aboard — later landed at Damascus airport to fly Schmidt to Germany.

In the first interview following his release, Schmidt stated to our radio that he is very happy to have his freedom back. Schmidt was clean-shaven, clean, comfortable, and well. He added that his abductors did not mistreat him and that he is looking forward to meeting with his family and friends.

When asked about his professional future, Schmidt said that thismatter is up to his company but that he would like to return to his former post in the Syrian capital. There was no time to ask him further questions.

Schmidt later went to the airport where he was seen off by the FRG ambassador and Syrian officials. The special plane then took off for Bonn.

A German diplomatic source in Damascus said that his government thanks the Syrian authorities concerned for their efforts to bring about the release of Alfred Schmidt.

EEC's Claude Cheysson Arrives, Makes Statement

JN041856 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson and his accompanying delegation arrived in Damascus at 1830 today on a visit to Syria at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry. Receiving Cheysson at Damascus International Airport were Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister; Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs; Hisham Kahhalah, director of the Foreign Ministry's West European Department; and Hasib Ustuwani, director of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department. He was also received by (Thomas O'Sullivan), chief of the European Community mission in Damascus, and members of the mission staff.

In an arrival statement, Cheysson expressed happiness at visiting Syria and to having been invited by Foreign Minister Farūq al-Shar'. He stressed Syria's great role in the region, whether with regard to Lebanon, the convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East, or the situation in the Gulf. He expressed concern over the escalation of tension in the Gulf region. He said: This is a source of concern for us all.

Cheysson added that he will hold economic and political talks with Syrian officials, particularly with regard to the development program being financed by the EEC. Discussion will also center on the consideration of other such actions, as well as a number of projects which require the adoption of decisions.

Meets With Faruq al-Shar'

JN051618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Official talks were held at the Foreign Ministry this morning between a Syrian delegation led by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the EEC delegation headed by EEC Commissioner General Claude Cheysson. A portion of the talks were attended by Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs; Yusuf Shakkur, deputy foreign minister; (Erhard Drine), director of the Middle East and the Mediterranean Department; (Ian Borg), political coordinator of the Gulf region and Mediterranean; and (Thomas O'Sullivan), permanent representative of the EEC mission in Syria. The two sides reviewed the multifaceted relations existing between Syria and the EEC countries.

The foreign minister also held talks with Cheysson on overall political developments in the Middle East and Gulf region. During these talks, Cheysson affirmed Syria's important role in the region under President Hafiz al-Asad. Cheysson expressed the EEC's eagerness to bolster and expand cooperation with Syria in all fields.

Cooperation Discussed With Minister

JN051924 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs, this afternoon received EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson and his accompanying delegation, as well as (Thomas O'Sullivan), the EEC representative in Damascus. Dr Baqjaji and Cheysson reviewed the stages of cooperation between Syria and the EEC and European Investment Bank within the framework of the first and second financial protocols. He also affirmed a desire to continue constructive cooperation with the European group in accordance with a third financial protocol, to be concluded between the two sides in the future.

Claude Cheysson praised the cooperative relations existing between Syria and the EEC and expressed the hope of expanding and bolstering them. The talks focused on a number of issues pertaining to better use of available opportunities for the EEC in light of the principal objectives of the country's economic and social development plan. Discussion also dealt with prioritizing projects according to economic sectors and explaining the priorities assigned to them. A number of these projects in the irrigation, electricity, and textiles fields will benefit from the third financial protocol.

Prime Minister Receives Cheysson

JN061107 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0915 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson and his accompaning delegation at 1000 today.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade. The talks focused on common interests between Europe and Syria, on the one hand, and between Europe and the Arabs, on the other, as well as the importance of continuing the Arab-European dialogue and the sound bases for economic and trade cooperation to realize the mutual interests of both parties. Discussion also dealt with a number of subjects that will constitute a positive beginning and an objective basis for cooperation between Syria and the EEC in different fields.

President Meets Cheysson

JN061250 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson at 1100 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

The talks dealt with relations between Syria and the EEC, as well as the importance of ties between the countries of the region and Western Europe.

Cheysson Concludes Visit

JN070830 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson has praised the results of his visit to Syria and the talks which he has had with Syrian officials. Cheysson described these discussions as useful and fruitful. Mr Cheysson made these remarks during a news conference at the Sheraton Hotel this evening before leaving Damascus. The news conference was attended by news agency correspondents and Arab and international reporters.

At the beginning of the conference, Cheysson said that he is visiting Syria on behalf of the EEC in order to revise agreements signed between Syria and the EEC. He added that the results of his visit have been useful and fruitful. Cheysson stated: We have reviewed the various aspects of ties between the two sides. I would like to note that 45 percent of EEC exports go to this region.

Cheysson added: Syria is a friendly state and important to us. He said: We discussed various aspects of cooperation with the ministers concerned, as well as the financial assistance which the EEC might give to Syria. We discussed several projects in a sound and serious manner, and we reviewed some of the difficulties. We hope that these projects will be implemented in general.

Cheysson noted that these projects include water distribution in certain Syrian areas and our contribution toward desertification studies. The sum of $200 million has been earmarked for this matter. He said: In our talks we touched on Syria's relations with the EEC states, which are good from the perspective of both sides.

In addition to its economic nature, Cheysson stated that his visit has a political side to it. He said that he has been interested in the region for over 40 years. During this time, he noted, I have been following up developments in Syria, which is receiving me as a friend. He affirmed: Every time I have visited Syria, I have been honored by meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. He added: During my meeting with the president this time, we touched on many issues and political matters. This meeting was a great occasion thanks to the wisdom and perspicacity of President Hafiz al-Asad and his long experience in political life. Every visitor to Syria who meets with the president is surprised by his excellency's high efficiency and his immense ability to assimilate and understand political issues. In fact, it is a very rare opportunity for me as a politician, an EEC commissioner, and a former French external relations minister to be received by the president and to hear his sound judgments.

Cheysson expressed his thanks to Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' for preparing this visit.

Cheysson also spoke about his meeting with Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm. He said: During this meeting, we touched on all the current political issues, including the international conference on peace in the Middle East, the arrangements concerning its convocation, and the Gulf war, particularly with respect to the aggravating crisis and the rising tension in this region. We also discussed relations between the Arab countries and Europe, relations which are growing in an unprecedented manner, especially in the wake of Spain's entry into the EEC.

Cheysson commended the hospitality and attention accorded to him during his visit to Syria. He said: I was given great attention and a warm reception. He thanked Syria for its hospitality and asserted: Syria has always played a prominent and distinguished role in the region. Our consultations with Syrian officials were very important. In fact, a part of the European world's activity influences the Middle East and there is now a new development in this relationship. It was inevitable for Syria to play a prominent and distinguished role.

Claude Cheysson then answered the questions of reporters. When asked about the EEC's stand toward the Gulf war, he replied: The EEC has an economic nature and does not interfere with the political committee. We hope that the freedom of international navigation in the Gulf is guaranteed. He added: It is uncivilized for this war to continue regardless of the reasons. The situation in the region should not be as it is now.

Claude Cheysson and his delegation left Damascus this evening following a visit of several days. Seeing him off at Damascus International Airport were Faruq al-Shar', minister of foreign affairs; Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of planning; Hisham Kahhalah, director of the West European Department at the Foreign Ministry; and other Foreign Ministry officials.

Khaddam Meets With PFLP's Habash 5 Sep

JN061312 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received PFLP Secretary General George Habash in Damascus yesterday. They discussed current Arab and Palestinian affairs, particularly Palestinian national unity, the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, and the role of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in dealing with the Zionist and imperialist plots.

The two sides agreed to continue their meetings and consultations on issues of mutual interest.

Commentary Views Return of U.S. Ambassador

JN051327 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. ambassador to Syria returned to Damascus on 2 September following a 10-month absence. He returned to carry out his usual work like other ambassadors assigned to Syria. It is normal for an ambassador to be at his post and to carry out his usual duties, representing his country in the state to which he has been accredited. Indeed, it is a necessity in relations among states, regardless of whether those relations are good or bad.

What is not normal is for an ambassador to be absent from his post and not carry out his usual duties. It signifies that the side which opted for such a situation bears the responsibility for its consequences.

When the U.S. Government revokes its decision to summon its ambassador to Washington for consultations and to retain him in Washington for a long period of time it is in fact acting in accordance with a desire to revoke one of its decisions made during the known anti-Syrian campaign. This campaign failed to deflect Syria from its principled line or to achieve the declared and undeclared aims of those who had launched it.

There are those who are anxious for relations between the U.S. Government and Syria to be normal and conducive to the presence of bilateral dialogue and consultations. These people are bound to welcome the U.S. Government's step and to expect the elimination of all the obstacles erected in the way of normal relations and constructive dialogue between the two sides. They are also bound to expect the removal of all the unfriendly and abnormal measures obstructing the return of normal relations. Such a situation will enable each side to closely know the views and intentions of the other with regard to all issues of interest to them, as well as those issues connected with peace, security, and development in the region and the world.

Syria firmly holds on to its principled policy and to its rights and the rights of its Arab nation. It did not embark on any step that could be construed as a deliberate action to harm relations or to cut off the natural dialogue among states on international and regional issues. Moreover, Syria considers diplomatic relations with other states to be an appropriate means for international cooperation and an exchange of views on issues of interest to the sides concerned. It also considers these relations to be part of the civilized and peaceful action undertaken among states. Therefore, Syria has always sought to maintain relations with other states within appropriate and necessary limits, without relinquishing the principle of formulating ties with other states in light of the stand such states adopt toward the Arab nation's national causes.

The improvement and development of Syria's relations with other states is directly proportional to their support for just Arab causes. Syria asks no more of other states than to abide by the principles of the UN Charter, UN resolutions, and international law. It asks other states to act within the framework of international cooperation to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on UN principles and resolutions. In our time it may not be necessary for states to have identical or even close views but, undoubtedly, states do need to have contacts and to maintain a dialogue with others. This is part of the responsibility of all states in an effort to maintain peace and to stave off the threat of war and armed conflicts.

PDRY Delegation Arrives for Talks 5 Sep

JN051212 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Damascus — A PDRY Supreme People's Council delegation led by Dr Muhammad 'Awad al-Sa'di, member of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, arrived in Damascus today on a 9-day visit to Syria. The PDRY delegation will hold talks with senior Syrian officials on relations between the two fraternal countries and on ways to promote them in the interest of the common Arab struggle.

Meets With People's Assembly

JN051837 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] A People's Assembly delegation led by Muhammad Khayr al-Halabi, member of the Assembly's Bureau, met this evening with the PDRY Supreme People's Council delegation headed by Dr Muhammad 'Awad al-Sa'di, member of the Central Committee, YSP candidate member, and member of the Supreme People's Council Presidium. The PDRY delegation is currently visiting Syria at the invitation of the People's Assembly. The talks dealt with parliamentary relations between Syria and the PDRY.

At the beginning of the meetng, Muhammad Khayr al-Halabi welcomed the visiting delegation and wished it a successful trip. He also gave an explanation of the democratic process in the country, the duties of the People's Assembly, the Assembly's role in legislation and popular supervision, its relationship with the executive authority, and its Arab and international parliamentary activities in the service of the just Arab causes. Dr Muhammad 'Awad al-Sa'di, head of the PDRY delegation, expressed his pleasure and that of his comrades to be visiting Arab Syria. He praised Syria's brave militant stands under President Hafiz

al-Asad and its distinguished role at various national and pan-Arab levels and in the region. Dr al-Sa'di affirmed the PDRY delegation's desire to learn more about the Syrian parliamentary experiment and to benefit from it in the fraternal PDRY.

Received by Foreign Minister

JN072006 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Muhammad 'Awad al-Sa'di, member of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the PDRY, and his accompanying delegation this evening. They are currently visiting the country at the invitation of the People's Assembly.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad al-Ahmad, member of the People's Assembly, and Ahmad 'Isa, head of the Arab Homeland Department at the Foreign Ministry. Discussions during the meeting focused on current Arab developments.

Al-Kasm, Delegation Return From Jordan 5 Sep

JN050942 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm and his accompanying delegation returned to Damascus from Amman at 1100 today after a 3-day official and cordial visit to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Jordan's Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i led those who saw him off at Amman Airport.

Al-Ahmar, Delegation Return From Libya 2 Sep

JN031453 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 3 Sep 87

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and his accompanying party and government delegation returned to Damascus from Libya last night. The delegation included Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member, and 'Abd al-Mu'im Hamawi, minister of state for cabinet affairs. The delegation represented Syria at the celebrations to mark the 18th anniversary of the 1 September revolution. The delegation also met with brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and conveyed to him the greetings of militant President Hafiz al-Asad on this occasion. They congratulated him on the revolution's achievements and victories on all levels in the name of Syria — president, people, party, and government. The delegation held meetings with members of the 1 September revolution leadership; the Algerian delegation, led by Brother Rabih Bitat, the Algerian People's Assembly speaker; and heads of other Arab delegations participating in the Libyan people's celebrations.

In a statement to JANA, Comrade al-Ahmar affirmed Syria's stand alongside the Libyan people and their leadership in confronting the U.S. imperialist and reactionary challenges. He indicated that Syria's participation in the celebrations of the 18th anniversary of the 1 September revolution symbolizes the determination of the Syrian and Libyan revolutions to continue their unionist, liberationist, and progressive march; to confront Zionist, imperialist, and reactionary schemes; and to continue the struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories and build a unified Arab socialist society.

Opposition Rejects Talks, Schedules Demonstrations

BK061207 Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali 31 Aug 87 p 1

[Text] It was decided at an eight-party alliance meeting yesterday presided over by Sheikh Hasina that the alliance will not participate in the 7 September meeting called by President Ershad. The participants said that the issue can never be considered becoming a party to the government's lewd diplomatic moves and failures. It called on citizens to make successful all the plans drawn to hold demonstrations on 7 October, including the blockade of Dhaka. The meeting's participants said that the people of the country will never pardon the government for its total failure to solve the flood problem. The government has been completely segregated from the people, and confidence in it has been lost both at home and abroad, they added.

The participants said that the government has lost the ground under its feet and, being politically motivated to uphold power, called a meeting on 7 September as a last resort.

They also asked different social and professional organizations to come forward unitedly to do relief work.

Ershad Cancels Meeting

BK061254 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] The meeting with the leaders of leading political parties called by President Ershad tomorrow has been postponed. An announcement from the president's Secretariat this evening said the meeting of the leaders of the leading political parties was earlier called by the president to discuss the situation arising out of the unprecedented floods in the recent history to coordinate the relief and rehabilitation program on a national basis and to reflect solidarity with the flood-stricken people in their time of distress.

UK's Renton Hands Over Check for Flood Relief

BK071258 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The British minister of state for Home Office, Mr Timothy Renton, now in Dhaka, has handed over a check of 30,000 pounds sterling to Irish voluntary organization, Concern, for relief operations in the flood-affected areas of Bangladesh. Mr Renton expressed deep feeling of his government of the colossal damage caused by the floods and said the service-oriented organization like Concern will do a great job by utilizing the British assistance for relief work for the flood-affected people of Bangladesh.

617 Deaths Result From Flooding, Diseases

BK051004 Hong Kong AFP in English 0951 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 5 (AFP) — Officials here said Saturday that 14 more people have died in the worst floods to hit Bangladesh in 40 years, putting the official death toll from a month of flooding at 617.

According to unofficial reports, mostly those compiled by newspapers, the floods caused by heavy monsoon rains have claimed more than 1,000 lives.

Officials working with the flood relief cell under President Hussain Mohammad Ershad said that 159 of the 617 people confirmed to have died since the flooding began were victims of an outbreak of diarrhoea and dysentery.

More than 200,000 people have been affected by infectious water-borne diseases in the country's 50 flooded districts, officials said.

A Health Ministry official said that a network of thousands of health and family planning officials, experts and volunteers had been activated to deal with the outbreak of diarrhoea and dysentery.

The Health Ministry has distributed 4.3 million water-purifying tablets to residents of flooded and diarrhoea-infected districts, officials said.

The government has described the flooding as the worst in 40 years and said it has claimed 26,000 head of cattle, damaged 1.9 million houses and destroyed nearly 1.7 million hectares (4.4 million acres) of crops.

A senior United Nations disaster relief official concluded a three-day visit here Friday. He said before leaving that 60 million U.S. dollars in pledges had been received from donor countries and agencies for victims of the floods.

Talks With Sri Lanka on Devolution of Powers End

BK041640 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] The second round of talks between India and Sri Lanka on the constitutional devolution of powers to the proposed administrative council for the Northern and Eastern Provinces of the island nation concluded in New Delhi today. Briefing newsmen, an official spokesman said the talks have been wide-ranging and the entire gamut was discussed with satisfactory progress. The talks covered powers of the chief minister, the role of the governor, and distribution of subjects in provincial and concurrent list. Law and order and land settlement of the Tamils were also discussed. The next round of talks is to be held in Colombo within a week.

Later, the Indian delegation held separate talks with the Tamil leaders belonging to TULF and LTTE. The discussions covered composition of the interim administrative council. The spokesman said some progress has been made. The attitude of the Tamil groups has been constructive. He said India is confident that a workable structure can be arrived at for the interim council.

The Sri Lankan delegation was led by Mr Manikdiwela, secretary to President Jayewardene, and the Indian delegation by Mr J.N. Dixit, India's high commissioner in Colombo.

Mr Dixit later called on the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and apprised him of the progress made in the talks. Earlier, Mr Dixit called on the president, Mr R. Venkataraman, and apprised him of the recent developments in the island. He also conveyed greetings from President Jayewardene to Mr Venkataraman.

Economic Commission Meeting With Sri Lanka Held

Sri Lankan Minister Arrives

BK060415 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] The India-Sri Lanka Joint Economic Commission meeting begins in New Delhi tomorrow. The nine-member Sri Lankan delegation is headed by the finance minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel. The commission is being reactivated after a lapse of 5 years at the instance of Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The Indian delegation will be led by the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari.

Mr de Mel, who arrived in Bombay yesterday, told newsmen that his delegation will explore the possibilities of expanding economic and trade cooperation between India and Sri Lanka. He hoped that his country will get a line of higher credit from India. Mr de Mel commended the role of the peacekeeping force in supervising the handing over of arms. Hailing the historic peace agreement, he said there is total peace and stability in Sri Lanka for the last 1 month. In the north and the east, the situation is peaceful.

Comments on Aim of Talks

BK061300 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] A Sri Lankan delegation headed by the finance minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, arrived in New Delhi this afternoon to attend the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Economic Commission meeting beginning tomorrow. Talking to newsmen at the airport, Mr de Mel said strengthening of economic cooperation is the basis for further promoting political friendship. He said during the 2-day meeting of the commission the two sides will discuss all areas of cooperation, including expansion of trade, joint investment, science and technology, and exploration of oil.

Mr de Mel expressed the hope that the Sri Lankan parliament will adopt a unanimous legislation to ratify the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement. He said the agreement has been supported by a vast majority of people in his country.

The Indo-Sri Lankan Joint Economic Commission has been reactivated after a lapse of 5 years at the instance of the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

Mr de Mel was received at the airport by the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, who will be leading the Indian delegation to the commission's meeting.

Joint Commission Meeting Begins

BK070920 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The India-Sri Lanka Joint Commission began its 2-day meeting in New Delhi this morning. The Indian delegation to the meeting is led by the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, assisted by a team of secretaries. The Sri Lankan finance minister, Ronnie de Mel, is heading his country's high-level delegation. The meeting will explore possibilities of expanding cooperation in economic, trade, and technical fields between the two countries. The possibilities of enhanced cooperation in the transport, petroleum, tourism, and power sectors will be examined.

Mr Tiwari in his opening remarks said the meeting of the Joint Commission after a long gap heralds the beginning of a new phase in India-Sri Lankan cooperation. He said it symbolizes the resolve of the two countries to work together and cooperate with each other in areas of mutual interest. Mr Tiwari assured Sri Lanka that India will extend whatever assistance it can provide in the reconstruction of the island nation and rehabilitation of the persons who suffered in the 4-year long ethnic strife.

The Sri Lankan minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, referred to the warm, friendly, and cordial relations between India and his country and said these have been further strengthened by the India-Sri Lankan agreement.

Further Report on Meeting
BK071500 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1430 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] India has announced an outright grant of 250 million rupees for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka. India has also decided to provide another 200 million rupees credit to Sri Lanka on easy terms. This was conveyed by the finance minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, to the Sri Lankan finance minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, in New Delhi today.

Addressing the 2-day India-Sri Lanka Joint Commission, Mr Tiwari said the meeting heralds the beginning of new phase in India-Sri Lankan cooperation. Mr Tiwari, who is leading the Indian delegation, assured Sri Lanka that India will extend whatever assistance it can for the reconstruction of the island nation. Mr Ronnie de Mel, who is leading the Sri Lankan delegation, referred to the warm, friendly, and cordial relations between India and his country and said these have been further strengthened by the India-Sri Lanka agreement. He said economic cooperation between the two countries can be even further strengthened.

Briefing newsmen, an official spokesman said that a number of working groups have been formed to explore the possibilities of expanding cooperation in economic, trade, and technical fields between the two countries. An agreement is likely to be signed at the end of the talks.

Mr Ronnie de Mel called on the president, Mr R. Venkataraman, in New Delhi today. They were together for half an hour.

Spokesman on Role of Peacekeeping Force in Sri Lanka
BK071600 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] An official spokesman briefing newsmen in New Delhi today said the peacekeeping force in Sri Lanka has restored confidence in the people of the Northern and Eastern Provinces and has been welcomed overwhelmingly by the people living in these provinces. He said since the arrival of the peacekeeping force, peace has been restored in the area and there has been no violation of the cease-fire. A large quantity of heavy and small arms have been laid down. However, there have been complaints from the LTTE and other Tamil groups. The spokesman clarified that the peacekeeping force is to restore peace in the provinces and not to act for any individual group.

Curfew Imposed in Tripura After Deaths in Clashes
BK050858 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] In Tripura, curfew which was imposed in Khairpur area near Agartala yesterday evening following the clash between Congress-I and CPI-M workers is continuing. As already reported, two persons were killed and eight others injured in the clash over an issue of a wall writing in the area. Police have arrested three persons on charges of murder. The Tripura Congress-I Committee has called for a 48-hour Tripura bundh [strike] from Monday [7 September] morning in protest against the murder.

Congress-I Committee Calls Strike
BK061327 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] In Tripura, police have made adequate arrangements for maintaining law and order in view of the 48-hour bundh [strike] beginning from tomorrow. The call for the bundh has been given by the Tripura Congress-I Committee following clashes between the supporters of the Congress-I and the left front parties of Friday.

The Indian Airlines has canceled two of its flights operating from Agartala. These are the Agartala-Silchar and Agartala-Calcutta flights. The other flights will, however, be operated according to schedule.

Meanwhile, curfew continues in Khairpur area near Agartala as a precautionary measure.

Strike Begins; Curfew Continues
BK070812 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] In Tripura, normal life was dislocated by the 48-hour statewide bundh [strike] which began this morning. Shops, markets, and other business establishments, and educational institutions remained closed. Vehicular traffic was off the road. According to a spokesman of the Indian Airlines, the airline operated its morning flight from Calcutta. The bundh was called by the Tripura Congress Committee following clashes between supporters of Congress-I and the left front parties on Friday.

Meanwhile, curfew continues in the Khairpur area in west Tripura as a precautionary measure.

Explosions Reported 8 Sep
BK080916 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 8 (AFP) — Bomb blasts rocked remote north-eastern Tripura State Tuesday, which remained virtually paralysed by a general strike for the second straight day, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) reported.

Activists from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party threw bombs at a bus terminal and the state's ruling Communist Party of India (Marxist) headquarters in Tripura's capital Agartala, the news agency said.

No casualties were reported in the explosions, PTI quoted police as saying.

Fourteen policemen and one civilian were wounded in Agartala Monday when strikers hurled a powerful bomb.

The Congress (I) called the two-day general strike demanding the state government resign following the killings of three of its supporters in a clash with Communist activists Thursday.

Paramilitary troops Tuesday manned sensitive points and searched vehicles entering Agartala city. Flights from Calcutta resumed after being halted for a day Monday, PTI said.

Shops, businesses and schools remained shut and vehicles stayed off the roads as police Tuesday fired warning rifle shots at two localities to disperse groups of strikers and arrested 16 congressmen, PTI said.

The Tripura chapter of the Congress (I) has also been campaigning for the state to be brought under direct federal rule to tackle a violent tribal insurgency that left 112 people dead last year.

The news agency said the Marxist administration banned people from holding demonstrations in the state. A round-the-clock curfew remained clamped in the Khairpur area of western Tripura, the site of the Congress (I)-Communist clash.

President Accepts Minister Azad's Resignation

BK070959 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The president has accepted the resignation of the minister of state for food and civil supplies, Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, from the Union Council of Ministers. Mr Azad had submitted his resignation and placed his services at the disposal of the Congress-I president for organizational work.

Gandhi Carries Out Major Party Reshuffle

BK071254 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] In a major step to revamp the All India Congress-I Committee [AICC-I], the party president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today replaced all the general secretaries except Mr G.K. Moopanar. The Karnataka Pradesh [State] Congress-I president, Mr Oscar Fernandes, has been inducted as a party general secretary. The minister of state for finance, Mr Janardan Pujari, will be the new Karnataka Pradesh Congress-I chief. Mr A.K. Anthony will be the new Kerala Pradesh Congress-I president. Mr Ghulam Nabi Azad, who resigned from the Union Council of Ministers, has also been appointed general secretary. Other new general secretaries are Mr Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi, Mr K.N. Singh, and Mr Ram Ratan Ram — all members of parliament.

Announcing these changes at a news conference in New Delhi this afternoon, Mr G.K. Moopanar said the resignations of all the general secretaries have been accepted by the party president. Mr Sita Ram Kesari continues to be the AICC-I treasurer. In Uttar Pradesh, in addition to the present Congress-I setup, three new general secretaries have been appointed. They are Mr Gulab Sehra, Mr Ranbir Singh, and Mr (Badshah Pathak).

Curfew Imposed in Gujarat After Mob Violence

BK070324 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] In Gujarat, an indefinite curfew has been imposed in Rajpipla town in Broach District since last evening following some violent incidents. The situation is now under control. According to the police, they were forced to resort to firing to disperse a violent crowed indulging in stone throwing. No one was injured in the firing. A policeman however sustained injuries in the mob attack.

In Surat, police have taken into custody 60 persons in connection with some violent incidents in the area yesterday. The situation is now peaceful.

8 Killed in West Bengal in Police Shooting

BK071610 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] In West Bengal, eight persons were killed in police firing yesterday at Kamalpur village under Manikchowk police station in Malda District. According to the DIG [deputy inspector general] of police, Mr S.R. Banerjee, the trouble started over the taking out of a procession. The police had to resort to firing to control the violent mob. Sixteen persons were injured. Thirty arrests have been made. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [banning the assembly of five or more persons], Criminal Procedure Code have been promulgated in the village.

Reportage on Violence in Punjab 6-7 Sep

'Terrorists' Kill 2

BK070345 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were shot dead and two seriously injured by terrorists in separate incidents last night. In Amritsar District, a police constable, Joginder Singh, and his son were gunned down by some terrorists in village (Chogawan). In Gurdaspur District, two persons were seriously injured when five terrorists entered a house and opened indiscriminate fire.

Police Jeep Ambushed

BK080415 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] In Punjab, three CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] personnel, including an inspector, were killed and four others seriously injured when their jeep was ambushed by terrorists near Bhikiwind in Amritsar District last night. In Kapurthala District, a scooterist was shot dead and his companion injured when terrorists fired at them near village Palahi last evening.

Meanwhile, a joint raiding party of police and CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] have recovered about 1.5 kg of gold valued at about 3 lakh rupees and fixed deposit receipts for another 1 lakh rupees during the search of a house in Mohali in

Ropar District yesterday. The house was used by the dreaded terrorist, Harjinder Singh Jinda, as his hideout.

10 'Terrorists' Arrested

BK080816 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] In Punjab, the Faridkot District police, assisted by security forces, raided terrorists' hideouts last night and arrested 10 hard-core terrorists responsible for killings, robberies, and snatching of weapons in Faridkot and Ferozepur Districts. Ten pistols were recovered from them. The district police chief told our Moga correspondent that four of those arrested are members of a newly formed militant organization. Meanwhile, one terrorist was killed in an encounter with the Punjab police near village Balwari in Ludhiana District this morning. The terrorist, when challenged by the police, opened fire. The police party returned the fire, killing him on the spot.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

'Fath-10' Offensive Launched

LD051446 Tehran IRNA in English 1442 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Muslim combatants under the command of Ramadan Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) launched Fath-10 operations deep inside Iraq early Friday.

According to reports reaching here the operations were launched 80 kms deep inside Iraq, northeast of Irbil Province.

Meanwhile, Tehran radio interrupted routine programs and began playing martial music today to announce the start of the Fath-10 operations.

More details will be reported shortly.

Iraqi Casualties Reported

LD051638 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — More than 250 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded and 10 vehicles and some heavy and light weapons were set afire during Fath-10 operations launched 80 kms. deep inside northeastern Iraq, Irbil Province, early Friday.

Muslim combatants comprising the Malek Ashtar Brigade 58 of the Ramadan Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), Iraqi Mojahedin affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) and Kurdish Hezbollah forces achieved their pre-determined goals in the early hours of the operations destroying over 20 Iraqi bases in the region.

Iraqi Heights 1636, 1062, 1185, 1198 and 1096 in northeastern Irbil Province came under the control of the joint forces in the course of the operations, the 20th since the beginning of the current year.

Iraqi Headquarters Destroyed

LD051643 Tehran IRNA in English 1622 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Muslim combatants continuing their success, destroyed headquarters of Khafifa (light) Battalion affiliated to Iraqi Division 45, killing or wounding scores of enemy troops in Fath-10 operations.

An operational commander at Ramadan Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Coprs (IRGC) told IRNA today that Muslim forces in the operations employing advanced guerrilla warfare tactics ambushed Iraqi troops in the Irbil heights. The out-maneuvered enemy forces hopelessly shot in panic and fled the area, he added.

He said the joint forces destroyed scores of Iraqi bases in northeastern Irbil Province inflicting heavy losses and casualties on them.

According to reports reaching here from the operational theater, deputy commander of artillery unit of Division 33 of Iraq's Fifth Corps, Third Lieutenant 'Abd al-'Aziz Nafal, was captured along with a group of other enemy troops in the course of operations launched 80 kms. deep inside Iraq early Friday.

Communique on 'Fath-10' Offensive

LD051742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Communique issued by the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center responsible for directing the operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 5 September with regard to the "Fath-10" operations]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brave ummah of Islam, zealous and combatant Iranian nation: Simultaneous with the period of mourning for the martyrdom of the master of martyrs, Hoseyn ibn al-'Ali — peace be upon him — and as a result of the readiness of the self-sacrificing and brave youth of Islamic Iran to be present in the ranks of the 'Ashura epic-makers, the warriors of Islam, consisting of the brave troops of the 58th Malek al-Ashtar Brigade of the infantary forces in the Guards Corps, the Iraqi Mojahedin attached to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq, and Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga, began "Fath-10" operations at 0145 on 4 September.

The operations were carried out under the control of the Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular warfare of the ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. The operations, codenamed "Ya 'Aba 'Abdullah al-Hoseyn" — peace be upon him -- were carried out 80 kilometers inside Iraqi soil accompanied by chants of "God is great." These victorious operations were implemented to strengthen and expand the battle of the struggling Iraqi forces, to respond to the latest acts of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime in bombing civilian centers in Iran and in shelling border villages, and to punish the crushing Ba'thist mercenaries for destroying Kurdish villages in Iraq.

The warriors of Islam reached all their predetermined goals in the general area of (Sayyedakan) in the early hours of the operation. In the course of these destructive operations, heights in the northeastern parts of Irbil Province, 1636, 1062, 1185, 1198,and 1096, were captured by the combatant forces and over 36 bases of the aggressor Ba'thist Army were destroyed. More than 550 enemy personnel were either annihilated or wounded. A number of defeated Iraqi forces, including Third Lieutenant 'Abd al-'Aziz Nafal, an infantry officer from the 33d Battalion of the Iraqi V Corps, were captured by the warriors of Islam. The total destruction of the Khafifeh Battalion, under the control of the Iraqi Army's 45th Division, which was the command post for the region, is among the achievements of the successful "Fath-10" operations.

The forces of Islam also managed to destroy 21 light and heavy vehicles, 3 heavy transport vehicles, 3 large ammunition depots, a number of antiaircraft guns, and 75 personal weapons and communication devices of the enemy during the course of these operations. They also captured a considerable quantity of their

equipment. At the conclusion of these successful military operations,the warriors of Islam returned safely to their bases.

While the successful "Fath-10" operations were underway, Iraqi Muslim Mojahedin attached to the Sayyed Ash-Shohada forces, managed to annihilate over 20 Ba'thist mercenary Army personnel by attacking enemy security and military centers in a series of guerrilla operations in southern Iraqi provinces. As well as destroying seven enemy military vehicles, they also captured a considerable quantity of enemy equipment.

At the same time, Peshmerga from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, also under the control of Ramadan Headquarters, carried out a guerrilla operation on the (Sangah-Kamchal) road and the (Sar Qal'eh-Kafra) roads, located in the Iraqi provinces of Kirkuk and Al-Sulaymaniyah. By shelling the Asus garrison in the same province, they inflicted heavy damage and losses on the enemy, killing or wounding 12 Iraqi personnel, including a number of officers.

[Signed] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters

Iraqi Mojahedin Attack Targets
LD050905 Tehran IRNA in English 0840 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Iraq's Muslim Mojahedin under command of Seyyed Ash-Shohada (as) forces attacked headquarters of Ba'th Party, power station and military police headquarters of Suq al-Shoyukh, in Zeeqare [spelling as received] Province over the past few days, according to Ramadhan Headquarters.

Some nine Iraqi soldiers were killed and three others wounded in Mojahedin's Ashura-3 operations. A considerable number of light weapons were also seized by the Mojahedin.

In a retaliatory measure the Iraqi helicopters fired missiles on residential regions in Suq al-Shoyukh, martyring some Iraqi civilians.

The Iraqi Mojahedin also destroyed two Ba'thist command vehicles and an IFA truck killing the Iraqi personnel aboard in Suq al-Shoyukh-al-Fahud road.

Iraqi Kurds Kill 33 Soldiers
LD051712 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) killed 33 Iraqi soldiers and officers in an ambush on Sinka-Chamchamal and Sargaleh-Kafri Roads [names as received] in Kirkuk and Al-Sulaymaniyah Provinces, simultaneous with the successful Fath-10 operations launched in northeastern Irbil, early Friday. The PUK Peshmergas seized intact an Iraqi 106 mm artillery piece, a machine-gun, several vehicles and a large number of light weapons during the attack. The Peshmergas also heavily shelled Asus barrack in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, inflicting substantial losses on enemy troops including the destruction of two munitions depots.

PUK Claims Iraq Gases Kurds
LD051713 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Scores of Iraqi Kurds were martyred and several others wounded in Iraqi chemical bombardment on its Kurdish-populated regions at 04:00 hours local time (12:30 GMT) Thursday, announced commander of the military wing of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) Saturday.

In a communique, the commander said the Ba'thist regime in scant respect to international regulations on the ban of chemical warfare strafed Kurdish-populated areas in northeastern Iraq using mustard gas.

It is not the first time the Iraqi regime has deployed internationally-banned substances on its own Kurdish residential quarters, said the communique adding the Baghdad Government unveils its 'true face' by perpetrating such inhuman acts.

In its communique, the PUK called on all global organizations, including the United Nations, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) as well as Islamic countries to condemn the Ba'thist regime of Iraq and prevent it from deploying chemical weapons on battlefields and against defenseless people of Iraqi Kurdistan.

Communique No 2,950
LD051701 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — Nine civilians were martyred and scores of others wounded when Iraqi forces shelled the Iranian border town of Sar Dasht in northwest Iran at 15:10 GMT Friday, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here today.

The 2950th Joint Staff Communique said that the southern Iranian port cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan were shelled by Iraqi troops Friday and Saturday as a result of which some civilians were martyred and wounded and several houses were destroyed.

A considerable number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five enemy munitions dumps, several vehicles, some anti-aircraft guns, several tank emplacements and a number of observation posts were destroyed in parts of the battlefields in artillery duels with Iranian forces Friday.

Exchange of sporadic artillery, tank and mortar fire between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued throughout the fronts, raging somewhat more heavily in Meymak, western fronts, Friday.

Iranian patrol units carried special missions throughout the war fronts Friday, dealing effective blows on Iraqi patrols and killing some of them.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Friday, killing or wounding a number of enemy

soldiers and destroying at least 10 gun emplacements, two munitions dumps and several vehicles of theirs.

In the western fronts, the artillery fire of Iranian forces inflicted heavy losses on an Iraqi infantry unit in Helaleh and checked movement of enemy motorized columns carrying supply and personnel in Meymak yesterday.

Reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Meymak and areas overlooking Helaleh were checked by Iranian anti-aircraft fire friday, the communique concluded.

Communique No 2,951

LD061607 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected six cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Saturday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied they were not carrying goods for Iraq.

Announcing the above, the 2951st Joint Staff Communique reported here Sunday that Iranian Gendarmerie forces shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts yesterday, killing or wounding several enemy soldiers and destroying 15 gun emplacements, two command vehicles and one vehicle-mounted 106 mm gun.

At least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed and several enemy gun emplacements and observation posts were destroyed in parts of the battlefields Saturday by Iranian artillery fire.

Two Iraqi patrol convoys attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Qasr-e Shirin, western fronts, yesterday were forced to flee when they were shelled by Iranian Muslim combatants.

Iran's Muslim combatants opened fire on Iraqi motorized columns moving in Sayyid Sadiq, Helaleh, Mehran, Meymak and east of Basra Saturday, damaging at least four enemy vehicles.

In Chazabeh, southern fronts, the artillery fire of Iranian combatants prevented Iraqi troops from setting up watch towers yesterday, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Forces on 'Full Alert'

LD061630 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iraqi forces were on full alert over the past two days at the western border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam Provinces nervously expecting fresh attacks by Muslim combatants of Iran, said military sources in western operational headquarters.

The sources said the jittery Iraqi forces for two consecutive days used flares through the night to light the probable battle scenes.

More than 20 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded in western fronts over the past two days, according to these sources.

Exchange of artillery fire raged on in western fronts being somewhat more intense in Qasr-e Shirin and Meymak operational theatres. Two munitions depots of the enemy were set aflame in Sumar operational region by heavy fire of the Muslim combatants on Iraqi positions and fortifications.

Operations in Northern Iraq

LD061754 Tehran IRNA in English 1744 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Over 230 Iraqi troops were killed and 102 others captured in a series of operations launched in northern Iraq by "Zafar" Brigade 75 of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) in coordination with Peshmergas of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP).

Announcing the above, Central Headquarters of the IRGC said here Sunday that headquarters of Battalion 87 of Iraqi Brigade 929, 12 bases of mountain infantry Brigade 9 in Chamchamal-Sangar road, the communications center and its protecting bases were captured by the Muslim combatants in these operations.

Nine villages in the region including Hasht-Zarrin [name as received] and Tappah Surah were mopped up of Ba'thist forces. Six Iraqi military vehicles, a considerable number of light and semi-heavy weapons as well as large haul of munitions were also seized in the operations.

An Iraqi copter was shot down in the operational region and all the personnel aboard were killed when some enemy helicopters attempted to attack the combatants.

Meanwhile, Ramadan Headquarters said that Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) forces attacked Shuraysh district of Irbil Province northeastern Iraq on Sept. 4, killing 150 Iraqi troops including some officers and capturing some 40 others who were transferred behind the fronts.

The PUK forces bringing the district under their control demolished two battalion headquarters, 10 bases and center of governorate of the district.

Some 200 various weapons, an armoured carrier, three wireless sets and 20 military vehicles were seized by the PUK forces.

The PUK forces also shelled military, economic and administrative centers of Sar Qalah district governorate in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province destroying all pre-determined targets, and inflicting heavy damage on Iraqi forces.

Two Iraqi soldiers after killing nine of their Ba'thist accomplices joined the Kurdish militants along with their individual weapons and ammunitions.

Reporters View Bombed Sar Dasht
LD070644 Tehran IRNA in English 0620 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Pool item]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, OANA-IRNA — A group of Iranian and foreign reporters and mediamen on Sunday inspected remains of civilian buildings in Sar Dasht and in the village of Shiv-Ebrahim two kilometers north of Sar Dasht in west Azerbayjan Province of Iran. They shot films, took photographs, and talked to local residents.

Sar Dasht and its nearby village Shiv-Ebrahim were shelled by Iraq at 12.30 local time Friday (09.30 hours GMT). Among the targets hit by the Iraqi shells are a bus terminal, a girls high school, and several living quarters. Nine civilians lost their lives in Sar Dasht as well as four in the village. Many were also injured.

Sar Dasht is at the extreme southern edge of the province, and only a few kilometers from the Iraq-Iran border. Its residential quarters have been a regular target for Iraqi artillery and its warplanes since the outbreak of the war.

Communique No 2,952
LD071619 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA — Iraqi troops suffered substantial losses in men and equipment throughout the battlefields in artillery duels with Iran's Muslim combatants Sunday, said a military communique here Monday.

In its 2952nd communique, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported that a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and several enemy gun emplacements, one munitions dump and some light and heavy vehicles were destroyed in the northwestern fronts by Iranian artillery fire yesterday.

In the western fronts, the Muslim combatants reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions Sunday, killing several enemy troops and destroying parts of fortifications and one 130 mm artillery piece of theirs.

Heavy Iranian artillery fire on Iraqi positions in Mehran, western fronts Sunday, inflicted considerable casualties and losses on enemy troops silencing their fire.

The artillery fire of Iranian forces also checked Iraqi engineering operations in Qasr-e Shirin, reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters in Meymak and Helaleh and relocation activities of enemy troops in Sumar and its nearby heights yesterday.

In Nahr-e Anbar, southern fronts, one Iraqi tank was destroyed and parts of enemy positions were set ablaze by artillery fire Sunday. Iranian Gendarmerie forces traded artillery fire with Iraqi troops in parts of the southern fronts yesterday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying 10 gun emplacements and observation posts of theirs.

On Sunday, Iranian Navy gunboats continued controling navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and other parts of the Persian Gulf. Movements of Iraqi vessels around the Al-Bakr and Al-'Amyah oil platforms were effectively checked by the Navy yesterday, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Kurds Launch Attacks
LD041709 Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT 4 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 4, IRNA — Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas attacked two Iraqi bases on Mirgah Sur-Diyanah road in Irbil Province, on August 31, destroying the bases and killing all Ba'thist troops there, said a statement here Friday.

The statement released by Ramadan Headquarters, the center of guerrilla warfare of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), said that three Iraqi military men were killed in Shaqlavand [name as received], Irbil Province on Aug. 31, by hand grenades thrown by the Peshmergas.

Meanwhile, the Peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) raided the district governorate of Salah ad-Din, a suburb of Irbil, on the same day, inflicting effective blows on the Ba'thists, the statement said. It said that during the operations, two Iraqi secret police officers identified as Salah Khalil 'Ali and Mamand Mohammad-Mozaffar and three local mercanaries including an Egyptian national were executed by the Peshmergas.

In another development, the statement said, Kurdish revolutionaries killed an Iraqi officer and seized his pistol in a bus terminal at Raniyah town on September 1.

At the same time, the Peshmergas also occupied a company headquarters in Vir [name as received] district, a suburb of Irbil Province, killing or wounding dozens of Iraqi soldiers and seizing several weapons of theirs, the statement concluded.

Communique No 2,953
LD081604 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept 8, IRNA — The southern Iranian port cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr were sporadically shelled by Iraqi forces on Monday and Tuesday as a result of which a number of civilians were wounded and several houses were damaged, said a military communique here today.

The 2953rd Joint Staff Communique reported that battle between Iranian Muslim combatants and Iraqi troops continued throughout the war fronts Monday with the latter sustaining heavy losses in men and equipment.

Iranian patrol convoys successfully reconnoitered and infiltrated Iraqi positions throughout the battlefields yesterday, inflicting effective blows on enemy troops. They also discovered and seized several light Iraqi weapons before returning safely to bases.

On Monday, Iran's Muslim combatants exchanged artillery and mortar fire with Iraqi troops in various fronts, especially in

Talayeh and Kushk in the southern sector where a number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded.

An Iraqi patrol convoy attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar, western fronts, yesterday was forced to flee by Iranian artillery fire.

In the southern fronts, Iranian artillery fire set afire two observation posts and one munitions dump of the Iraqi Ba'thist troops Monday.

The Muslim forces also pounded Iraqi positions in the western and northwestern fronts with their artillery fire Monday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying several gun emplacements of theirs.

Iraqi troops suffered heavy casualties and 15 enemy gun emplacements and observation posts were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts in artillery duels with the Muslim combatants Monday.

Six Iraqi soldiers and three civilians defected to Iran in a war theater Monday, concluded the communique.

Plan Outlined for Release of 100 Iraqi Prisoners

LD061432 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iran will release more than 100 Iraqi POW's unilaterally and deliver them to the Red Cross representatives in Tehran during the War Week (22-28 Sept), secretary of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) Mohammad Nazaran told a press conference here today.

Nazaran said the Islamic Republic has submitted a nine-point proposal to the head of the Middle East and African section of the Red Cross last week according to which more POW's are to be released if the Iraqi regime agrees with the contents of Iran's plan.

The proposal is as follows:

1-Exchange of POW's who have served prison terms of over five years.

2-Exchange of physicians and relief workers.

3-Exchange of those who have not been involved in fighting.

4-Exchange of POW's with over 60 years of age.

5-Exchange of incurable POW's.

6-Exchange of POW's who were under 16 years of age at the time of capture.

7-Iraq's mutual release of disabled and wounded prisoners of war.

8-Reunion of the immediate relatives of the POW's with their sons in refugee camps.

9-Giving gifts to these relatives by both Iran and Iraq.

Referring to the humanitarian and Islamic treatment of the Iranian officials of the Iraqi POW's, Nazaran invited international forums to visit these POW's who are being treated as the "guests of the Islamic Republic."

He further said that more than 1,000 Iraqis have so far sought asylum in Iran who have joined the combat battalions of the Iraqi Mojahedin and have actively participated in military operations especially in Karbala-2 and Karbala-5.

More than 80 of these Iraqis have to-date been martyred, Nazaran concluded.

Musavi Meets With Relatives of Prisoners, MIA's

LD080848 Tehran IRNA in English 0714 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept 8, IRNA — U.S. spitefulness towards Muslim nations is due to the feeling that revolutionary Islam is rising in Islamic countries. While giving independent personalities to Muslims and the Islamic societies, this has also foiled oppressive factors through which global arrogance had debased Muslims and plundered their wealth for hundreds of years.

Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi who made the remark in a meeting with relatives of prisoners and of the missing-in-action from southern provinces of the country Monday further said that due to the devotion of Muslim combatants the Iranian nation is regarded as a major enemy to the United States and its allies in the world. He stressed that not only Iran does not feel humiliated towards oppressive world powers but is determined to destroy them and save other nations.

The prime minister said that Islam has reappeared in the world due to the resistance and hardship that captives and those disappeared in the imposed-war had suffered. He added that their devotion has made Muslims proud throughout the world and has ensured expansion of Islam.

Prime Minister Musavi reminded that there are ever-increasing signs of Muslims' awakeness in the world. He said the fact that Islam can be relied upon as the foundation of a statehood is becoming obvious to the world people and noted that it is one reason why more and more people are converting to Islam.

Commentary Welcomes Perez De Cuellar Visit

LD051252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. According to news agency reports, UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar yesterday announced at the United Nations that he will visit Iraq and Iran as soon as possible in an effort to implement the 20 July UN Security Council request for a cease-fire in the Gulf war. [passage omitted]

Iranian diplomatic efforts in recent weeks seek to explain Iran's position with regard to the Security Council resolution of 20 July. These efforts persuaded a number of Security Council members and Perez de Cuellar that he should visit our country to discuss our views in greater detail. However, the United States and a number of its Western allies, such as Britain, have tried to bring pressure on other Security Council members to follow their own predetermined plans.

On several occasions, the UN secretary general has displayed good will with regard to the issue of the imposed war. Among the more optimistic moves was the UN secretary general's decision to dispatch experts to investigate the use of chemical weapons in recent years. These experts disseminated their report, which then led to a watered-down UN Security Council resolution condemning Iraq for deploying prohibited weapons.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has always been prepared to fully exploit the above initiatives to end the war and to punish the aggressor. This would allow basic steps to be taken to eventually condemn the agent of corruption and sedition, the agent who has fomented crisis and agitation in the region.

The belief that the first step toward mounting a comprehensive appraisal of the war is to identify the aggressor is becoming more accepted in international organizations and in world public opinion. The UN Charter stresses that the aggressor must be identified and that the Security Council must censure him. However, after 7 years of war the Security Council has been unable to take effective measures in this connection. All the Security Council's decisions regarding the war have been in support of Iraq.

The future of cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Security Council will depend on the Council's position. The Security Council should declare whether its positions have changed or whether they remain the same as before; namely, support for the Iraqi regime under the mask of the UN Charter and efforts to end the war in the hope of delaying that regime's certain downfall.

As already declared, the Islamic Republic of Iran will welcome the UN secretary general's visit to inform him of the views held by our country. The Islamic Republic of Iran will point out that today any positive step to end the war must include denouncing the aggressor and indicting him.

Commentary Warns Supporters of U.S. Gulf Policy

LD051155 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Station commentary: "U.S. Open Support for the Iraqi Regime"]

[Text] While Iraq has been intensifying and expanding its adventurist activities in the Persian Gulf, U.S. officials have been trying to show that the resumption of Iraqi attacks in the Gulf does not enjoy the full support of Washington and that the U.S. military presence there is for the sake of ensuring the flow of oil to Europe and other countries. During this period, however, a number of U.S. officials have openly stated that the United States can understand the tensions created by the Iraqi regime in the Persian Gulf. They have clearly said that Washington is in complete agreement with Iraqi views concerning an immediate and complete cease-fire.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy stated in a recent interview that the time for mincing words has passed and that now there must be action, adding that the United States strongly hopes that this will take place in the shape of Iranian acceptance of Resolution 598. He said that the establishment of a partial cease-fire will only aid Iran in pursuing its war strategy. Murphy affirmed that the United States supports a complete peace based on a cease-fire at sea, on land, and in the air.

The meaning of this statement is that the United States is deliberately creating tension in the Persian Gulf in order to reduce the pressure on the Iraqi regime on the land-based fronts. Such remarks by Richard Murphy, repeatedly stressed by other U.S. officials, on the need for a resolution by the UN Security Council that would include measures to punish the side not agreeing to it show exactly what the extensive U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf and the continuation of the trend by other Western countries to join the U.S. militarists is all about. It is a plan whose goals and designs extend much further than the security of Kuwaiti shipping, and that Reagan's government is in fact gradually trying to ensure the so-called guarantees of punishment in the guise of supporting Kuwaiti ships in order to prevent Saddam's defeat.

Bringing the United Kingdom, France, and a number of other Western countries to the Persian Gulf is certainly important from the point of view that such so-called measures for punishment should be taken by a larger number of governments, some of which are permanant members of the UN Security Council and all of whom are in NATO.Therefore, the resumption of Iraqi attacks in the Persian Gulf, considering its current dimensions and intensity, not only does not contravene the said plan but, in fact, the intensification of the crisis will create conditions allowing the Reagan government to bring other Western countries to the Persian Gulf and strengthen Washington's position on the need to establish a complete cease-fire, which means nothing other than keeping Saddam in power.

However, it is very clear that such measures will have no effect on the just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The 'Ashura epic-makers are prepared to turn the warm waters of the Persian Gulf into the graveyard of the aggressive and plotting forces in the event of the schemes of the arch-satan continue. It is certain that should such conditions arise, military struggle will continue until the total destruction of the aggressors is achieved and none of Washington's Western allies who have entered the area to provide military support for the U.S. forces will be safe from the repercussions of such an event.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Views U.S. Role in Gulf

LD062010 Tehran IRNA in English 1945 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6 IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani says it will not be an easy task for the U.S. to pull out of the Persian Gulf. "It was easy for them to

abandon Lebanon but it won't be easy to leave the Persian Gulf," he told a group of visitors.

Hoj. Hashemi-Rafsanjani was speaking to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati who accompanied by Iranian diplomats to Arab and African states called on him today.

On relations with Kuwait, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said:

"Kuwait has been aiding the war-mongering regime of Saddam (Husayn) who has been dropping bombs on the heads of our people and hitting our oil wells for the last seven years. But we have been patient towards this mischief. We still tell them (the Kuwaitis) that if they declare neutrality (in the war) we will forgive their 7-year-old sin."

Addressing Kuwaiti rulers, Hashemi-Rafsanjani questioned their absurd logic of speaking a common language as reasons of supporting Iraq.

"The Arabic language cannot be the incentive behind a joint action. You admit that Iraq started the war but still continue your support for it. If you support justice, we can be friends together."

Further on the same subject, he said:

"International norms grant us the right to take revenge on a country which opts to become an accomplice of the other party in a war."

On the recent developments in the Persian Gulf:

"The U.S. is responsible for the Persian Gulf events. We don't think the Kuwaiti regime has invited Washington to the region on its own initiative. The Kuwaitis have rather been assigned to do so. Nevertheless, we will continue our policy of resistance and retaliation. We will not let Kuwait take advantage of this tension and tie our hands in the Persian Gulf.

On Kuwait's recent policies:

"If the rulers of Kuwait resort to wrong-doing, they may be slapped in the face. But at the same time, we cannot abandon the Kuwaiti people alone solely because of the (wrong) actions of the Kuwaiti Government."

On the Iraqi imposed war:

"Our issue with the Ba'thist regime of Iraq will never be solved unless the aggressor is identified and put on trial. If we feel all the (political) roads have been closed, we will enter the final stage (of the war).

"We have prepared ourselves for the worst. Under these circumstances, when the U.S. opens its eyes, it will realise what a great blunder it has committed. Washington will be humiliated here as it was in Lebanon.

"The Persian Gulf is not like Lebanon. The Americans will sustain great losses. They have caused trouble for the Persian Gulf states. For them it was easy to abandon Lebanon, but leaving the Persian Gulf won't be an easy job."

On the importance the Islamic Republic attaches to relations with Islamic states within the framework of Islamic beliefs and tenets:

"Our constitution somehow emphasizes that our people must get acquainted with the Arabic language. This makes it clear that we do not intend to cut off from the Arab world. If others adhere to this policy (that we should cut our relations with the Arabs), we should not follow the same line. Among the plots of the West against us has been to curtail our hands from the territories under Western domination.

"The most obvious reason for this effort by the West is the holy Mecca catastrophe. This crime was committed in order to prevent us from making our voice heard by Muslims through the International Hajj Congress. But this very act enabled us to convey our words more easily to the world peoples. Because, following this crime, we could convey our message for (the next) ten years. Even if we did not go to Mecca for the next ten years, our message has already been conveyed. Even if Iranians were not present during the hajj ceremonies, their very absence would leave its deep impact."

The Majlis speaker emphasized that by this crime, the Hijaz rulers only proved their weakness in administring the holy sanctuaries. "It is our obligation to go to Mecca, however," he stressed.

On the West's pressure on the al-Sa'ud regime to commit the tragic Mecca crime, he said:

"It is very improbable for the Saudis to have done this on their own initiative. There must be some other objectives behind this trend, dictated chiefly by the U.S. and with the collaboration of Britain and other oppressive powers...

"If the U.S. leaves Saudi Arabia alone, the Saudis would not even be able to resist Yemen. We will not surrender to the policies of breaking of relations. We brotherly declare to the Islamic states that they are mistaken and must correct themselves. Otherwise, they would not be competent to reign over their people. We cannot let the Islamic world be divided and Israel remain safe."

On Iran's relations with Islamic countries:

"This point has been mentioned in our policy that one day we could get united with these countries and enter the fight for a joint cause. Some of these (Islamic) countries are weak and we must help them to save themselves. Furthermore, we have other important issues with them like that of oil. If there is no cooperation and unity of expression at OPEC, all the Islamic states will suffer."

On Iran's ties with the Third World:

"In Africa where an outstanding number of people are Muslims, we should not have much expectations. Parts of this continent have been victimized and their people have been oppressed over

the past years. We must understand the situation of these peoples."

Elsewhere in his remarks, the Majlis speaker referred to the Islamic Republic's relations with the Western countries, and said:

"Regarding the U.S., the condition was particular. The Americans were the first to sever relations with Iran. In the case of France and Britian too, they were the cause of the adventurism. Yet we do not fear having relations and negotiations with them and we do not regard ourselves weak."

On the role of Iran's political representatives abroad:

"Our ambassadors must always introduce the characteristics of Iran and the Islamic Revolution and solve the problems. The Imam (Khomeyni) himself has said in this regard that we must have relations with governments under certain conditions and convey our words through them.

"Defending the deprived is among the main ideals of our struggle. We sincerely offer our lives for the impoverished and intend to fight as long as we are alive for the dignity of Islam and in support of the oppressed and against expansionism and bullying.

"It is true that there were others before us who started this struggle. There were some movements in African states and we have used their experiences.

"But today, it is Iran which has succeeded in the world to set up a powerful base for the promulgation of these thoughts. In this case, with the grace of God, we have been ahead of others and become independent. We have removed the primary obstacles and it is known to the world now that the Islamic Republic of Iran has risen up as the center for a new Islamic movement."

Musavi Comments on Kuwait, U.S. Role in 'Crimes'

LD061108 Tehran IRNA in English 1103 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Prime Minister Musavi said here today that the Persian Gulf states are permanent neighbors which should care more about good relations with each other rather than relations with the United States. He said however long the US may linger in the Persian Gulf it will eventually pull out of the waterway and let those states bear the consequence of their hostility with Iran.

Musavi, who was commenting at a Cabinet meeting here on Kuwait's expulsion Saturday of five Iranian diplomats, said Kuwait is too weak a government to adopt any decision in relation with politics, but that it obeys only that which is dictated upon it by other governments. He said Iran would in due course respond to Kuwait. He said the US would better pack up and get out of the Persian Gulf rather than 'go any further down in the quagmire it has created for itself in this part of the world.'

Musavi said such incidents as the Zionists' attack against southern Lebanon, the Wahabis attacks at a rally of mourning Muslims in Pakistan, arrest and trial of Muslim strugglers in Tunis, and Iraq's war-mongering acts in the region are a token of the struggle of the arrogant world powers against genuine Muslim movements.

He said the US is involved in each and every crime against Muslims, and along with its supporters is an 'aider and abettor in Iraq's war crimes and will have to pay for the blood money of the martyrs of the Islamic revolution and of the people of Iraq.'

Interviewed on Current Events

LD061401 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi by an unidentified correspondent following the 6 September Cabinet meeting in Tehran — recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Musavi, the issue of the Persian Gulf and the diplomatic attempts being made to end the war are among the most important news reports now capturing world attention. In the midst of these activities, however, we are also witnessing the daily exacerbation of crisis in the region. Who do you believe the perpetrators of tension in the region to be and what are your suggestions for easing the crisis?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I believe the answer to your question with regard to the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz can be found in the presence of more than 70 warships in this small region, ships from NATO countries, particularly the United States. One should seek the roots of the present tension and the escalation of the crisis in the presence of these ships.

What is extremely important and central to remember, something which might be overlooked in superficial analyses, is the fact that the nations of the region are in principle opposed to the presence of all big powers there. Any overt or covert presence could bring about some sort of crisis, which in turn could expand and deepen. Should this presence be prolonged, I believe that it will lead to a transformation in the mentality of the region's nations in confronting global arrogance.

Furthermore, the presence of these forces is a provocation as far as daily occurrances in the Persian Gulf are concerned. It is an overt intervention in the regional situation and the internal affairs of the region's countries; it is some sort of direct and impudent support for the criminal Saddam regime. Consequently, the United States and its allies are a direct accomplice in the martyrdom of every man on the side of the Islamic revolution or the Iraqi nation fighting against the Saddam regime. Therefore, they must pay a price for their criminal participation in these crimes.

We believe that to end the existing crisis these forces must withdraw. These forces are here to set up bases, to establish domination, and to help the Saddam regime; they are here to safeguard the illegitimate U.S. interests in the region. What we are saying is that the United States cannot have any interests in the region. It is, therefore, in its interest to dismantle its

threatening machinery and leave the region before it becomes embroiled in deeper difficulties, sinking in the quagmire created here. Once this has been done, we will see an end to the tension. There was no tension in the Persian Gulf apart from attacks on ships by the Saddam regime. Naturally, this created some sort of chaos in the region. There would not have been any problem had these attacks not occurred. However, if the United States is under the impression that by bringing its ships it can help the Saddam regime and its friends, then it must bear in mind that this is detrimental to its friends and agents in the region. Consequently, under no circumstances can it achieve its illegitimate objectives in the region by this means.

[Correspondent] Simultaneous with the Persian Gulf issues and the Iraqi attacks on ships and civilian areas in Iran, we note that Israel, having been stationed in southern Lebanon for a time and having been in the news for a time, has resumed its attacks on Muslims in southern Lebanon. We also see that in Pakistan a number of Muslims engaged in marking the 'Ashura period were attacked by Wahabis. What interpretation do you put on the timing of these attacks against Muslims?

[Musavi] The Lebanon issue is a clear one; that is to say, some sort of opposition has emerged against what is termed in the West as Islamic fundamentalism. Evidently what they refer to as fundamentalism has a sarcastic and pejorative connotation. This term has now been transformed into a determining one at the international political level. They feel that this issue is gaining momentum. Therefore, it is natural that they should confront any genuine Islamic movement. This issue is not simply confined to Lebanon. Tunisia is another example. We have no links with Muslim forces in that country, with the brothers who are being subjected to torture. The movement there has historical roots. Indeed, it is influenced by the Islamic revolution. However, all these events are influenced by the awakening of Muslims, an awakening in which the imam of the ummah has had a determining role. The superpowers now feel threatened; thus the practice of torture. Any movement in line with the Islamic revolution at any place is subjected to an onslaught.

Following the Mecca tragedy and the bloody Friday we should await further developments in addition to those we have already witnessed. There is, however, one particular difference. Prior to the Mecca tragedy, the line between good and evil, black and white, was not quite clear. Since the Mecca tragedy, the revolutionary Islam, the Islam which calls on Muslims to stand on their own feet, will confront the Islam the United States intends to impose. This is not genuine Islam; it is an Islam inviting men to isolation, tononparticipation in social life, to nonparticipation in their political future, as well as accepting the domination of big powers. These two Islams confront each other.

We anticipate a beneficial outcome to all this. Considering our knowledge of the Islamic world, our analysis points to an awakening among Muslims, an awakening which will continue to gain great momentum toward the sublime objectives that Islam expects Islamic communities to achieve following the martyrdom, the bloodshed, and the innocent deaths of our and other pilgrims who have died so tragically.

IRNA Reports Expulsion of Diplomats From Kuwait

LD080804 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry, in a memorandam to the Iranian Embassy on Monday, asked Iran's attache Ahmad Baqeri and his family to leave Kuwait within a week, the sixth Iranian diplomat to be dismissed by Kuwait since Saturday.

Before the dismissals, Iran had a 7-member diplomatic representation in that country.

Meanwhile, according to reports, Kuwait's police have resumed malicious investigation, unwarranted detention of and atrocious behaviour with immigrant Iranians in that country.

Commentary Views Kuwaiti-Iraqi Relations

LD061301 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1113 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Political commentary: "Kuwait Takes a Step Toward Waywardness"]

[Text] It was announced yesterday that the Kuwaiti Government had asked five Iranian diplomats to leave that country within 1 week. The official statement issued in Kuwait did not say why such a decision had been made. However, it is claimed in the West that such a miscalculated move by the Kuwaiti Government is related to an official note from the foreign minister of that country to the UN secretary general. In this note the Kuwaiti Government claimed that several missiles have hit Kuwait's coast and installations. The UN secretary general has been asked to adopt measures with regard to this matter.

In his note, the Kuwaiti minister for foreign affairs has accused the Islamic Republic of Iran of aggression against Kuwait. He said that such a dangerous move will only exacerbate the already critical situation in the region and thwart hopes for a speedy solution.

The Kuwaiti ambassador in the United States has accused the Islamic Republic of Iran of resorting to a policy of intimidating Kuwait. He claimed that Kuwait has been militarily coveted by Iran for some time, but he did not offer any evidence to support this allegation. It seems that what was meant by the Kuwaiti diplomat was the repeated warnings by the Islamic Republic of Iran to the supporters of Saddam Husayn to abandon their backing for the Aflaqite regime of Iraq and to avoid setting themselves on fire together with Saddam.

Despite such brotherly and Islamic advice, the Kuwaiti Government in past years has taken a path which in practice has been the opposite of this. According to many reports, that country has participated in the military adventures of the Aflaqite regime of Iraq and has placed many facilities — economic, trading, and military — at the disposal of that regime.

Such behaviour by the Kuwaiti Government, which has helped to exacerbate the region's crisis, has continuously met with the displeasure of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Despite popular

protest, the same unwise policy of the Kuwaiti Government has led that country to suffer damages in the waters of the Persian Gulf and at home. This sheykhdom today is one of the most unstable and insecure countries of the region. Its rulers have had to resort to restrictions on liberties, the dissolution of the parliament, and oppression against the Muslim people of the country in order to retain power.

Other factors which add to the insecurity of that small country with its small population are issues such as support for the Aflaqite regime of Iraq, invitations to the superpowers to interfere in the Persian Gulf, domestic opposition, the challenge to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and, above all, the meddling of the Saddam regime in Kuwait's domestic and security affairs.

In the past, the Aflaqite regime of Iraq has repeatedly shown that interference in the affairs of Kuwait is aimed at a chance to blackmail the Kuwaiti Government. The behavior of the Kuwaiti Government has been an incentive to the Aflaqite regime of Iraq to follow up its policies. Yet, one would logically have expected the Kuwaiti Government to have understood, now better than at any other time, the fact that the continuation of such policies is very dangerous and may have grave consequences.

By embarking on its new and unwise acts, however, the Kuwaiti Government has demonstrated that it continues to fail to grasp the reality of the situation and that it insists on going along the path of waywardness. Even more than before it shows itself to be a slave of the tricks and imposition of the Aflaqite regime of Iraq.

There is no doubt that the recent move by the Kuwaiti Government is a grave mistake; its benefit will be reaped by the Aflaqite regime of Iraq. Kuwait's miscalculated measures will lead to its falling more than ever before into the hands of Iraq and it will burn with Saddam. The recent move by the Kuwaiti Government will in no way benefit the amir and the government of that country; it will, however, make the wretched rulers of Baghdad happy. They have always pursued the hope of sacrificing more countries and parties for their designs in order to find a way to save their own skins.

Yet, if Kuwait had taken steps to consolidate its relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, it could have been both secure from the influence and the sabotage of the Aflaqite regime of Iraq and immune from the fire of the imposed war.

Instead of the recent unwise move, if the rulers of Kuwait had taken steps to remove their support for the Aflaqite regime of Iraq and if they had reduced their mad ties with this regime, they would have certainly adopted a correct decision in line with the interests of the Muslim people of that country, as well as the Muslim nations of the region.

President Khamene'i Notes 'Main Losers' in Gulf

LD071448 Tehran IRNA in English 1406 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7. IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i today said that Iran will not initiate a conflict in the Persian Gulf but warned that if a fire breaks out in the region it will not be easily extinguished and nobody can escape it unscathed. Speaking to special brigades of the naval forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) here, the president said "We make the best efforts not to be the initiator in the Persian Gulf and this is certainly not due to our weakness."

Stressing that dependent regional countries will be the main losers in the Persian Gulf drama, Khamene'i noted that the countries relying on hollow superpowers, such as the unfortunate governments of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq, will suffer more than others. "We wished that only the U.S. had suffered in the issue," he added. "The Islamic Republic now enjoys special techniques that enable it to break the backbone of anyone attempting to create tension in the region," asserted the president.

Khamene'i who is also the head of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) said that global arrogance, despite its pretentions finally emerged fully on the side of the Iraqi regime. "This is in stark contrast to claims of the U.S. and other powers that they are neutral in the Iraqi-imposed war," remarked Khamene'i.

Today, the SDC head said, the U.S. has put all its resources at the disposal of the Baghdad regime and other enemies of the Islamic Revolution. "But," he noted "Iran is capable of destroying all these resources."

President Khamene'i made it clear that Iran's abilities to deal blows at sea are superior to those of its enemies present in the Persian Gulf.

Dismissing the propaganda ballyhoo raised by arrogant powers in the region as "futile", Khamene'i said the U.S. is considered to be powerful by Saddam, Mubarak and King Husayn but not by Iran.

Warns Enemies of Naval Strength

LD072142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] The commander of the Naval Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has submitted to President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, a report on the strength and preparedness of the special naval force of the Guards Corps for confronting any tension in the region.

According to the Central News Unit, the president made the following speech after receiving this report: Today we possess special tactics and techniques that will enable us to break the backbone of anyone who wishes to create tension in the region.

The president added that despite the fact that arrogance has entered the field with all its capabilities, it is not very easy to fight against a revolution and it will cost them dearly. We have filled the vacuum of reliance upon the powers with reliance upon God. This has taught a lesson to nations and to history.

Mr Khamene'i asked: What can the United States do in the Persian Gulf? Does it have anything else to offer apart from what it has already brought to the scene, or does it intend to start a nuclear war? In that case, the issue will no longer be against the

revolution but against humanity. Today is not a day when one can make use of nuclear weapons in one area of the world.

In another part of his speech, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: We possess other complex weapons. Our enemies did not think that our firepower in the sea would be so much that we would be stronger than our rivals, but today we posses this power. It is a fact that in the field of delivering blows at sea we have had the upper hand against the enemies who have a presence in this region.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council noted that those who will lose most in this matter are those who have pinned their hopes upon a hollow superpower; namely, wretched governments such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Iraq. We would have liked only the United States to be the loser in this issue, he added.

In conclusion, Khamene'i described the formation of the Naval Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps as a good experience. He referred to what he himself had witnessed during the martyrdom maneuvers. He stated: In those maneuvers we witnessed with our own eyes that we possess a great power combined with faith, technology, love, and technical capability at the disposal of the revolution.

Paper Cited On Meeting With U.S. Representatives

JN060648 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] London — In the first edition of its issue published for today, the British newspaper *The Observer* reports that U.S. and Iranian representatives met secretly in Switzerland last week to discuss the Gulf crisis. Citing a well-informed Iranian source, *The Observer* reports that the U.S. delegation included advisers of U.S. Vice President George Bush and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The Observer adds that the Iranian delegation was led by Mohsen Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the son of ['Ali Akbar] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament.

The British newspaper reports that the two delegations discussed the situation in the Gulf, the issue of the U.S. hostages being held in Lebanon, and the possibility of a rapprochement in U.S.-Iranian relations. The paper did not disclose any other details.

Larijani Departs for Moscow Visit 7 Sep

NC070452 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Mr Larijani, the Deputy Minister for Economic and International Affairs in our country's Foreign Ministry, departed for Moscow this morning. The visit comes in response to an official invitation from Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister.

Discusses Gulf With Vorontsov

LD071706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Mr Mohammad Javad Larijani, deputy foreign minister in charge of international and economic affairs, who is currently in Moscow with an accompanying delegation, began the first round of his discussions with Yuliy Vorontsov, Soviet deputy foreign minister, at noon today. The talks are focused on important regional and world issues, as well as those pertaining to bilateral interests and cooperation.

During this meeting, the Soviet deputy foreign minister noted the desire of his country's leaders to expand bilateral relations. With regard to the Persian Gulf, he said: Steadfastness and perseverance against the encroachments of U.S. imperialism is necessary.

Further on Talks

LD071834 Tehran IRNA in English 1829 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA — The Soviet Union seriously supports friendly ties with Iran and is keen to cooperate with it in various political, economic and international areas, said Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov in Moscow Monday.

In a meeting with visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic and International Affairs Mohammed Javad Larijani, Vorontsov said that it is essential to resist aggressions of U.S. imperialism.

In response, Larijani noting the common anti-imperialist stance of the two countries said the Islamic Republic of Iran also advocates expansion of Tehran-Moscow ties in this regard.

On the U.S. provocations in the region, the Iranian official said the U.S. intends to drag the region towards a 'catastrophe'. But, he added, the Islamic Republic will strongly answer any aggression against its interests.

"The Iraqi regime's provocations are exactly in line with the U.S. expansionist intents," he stressed.

The two sides carefully studied the latest developments and issues of the United Nations Security Council, including efforts of the U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Larijani arrived in Moscow today in the morning at the head of a delegation.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Praises Al-Qadhdhafi Mecca Stand

LD061459 Tehran IRNA in English 1440 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iran's ambassador to Tripoli Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Kazem Khonsari met Majlis (Parliament) Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and presented a report on recent progress concerning joint cooperation between Iran and Libya here Sunday.

Hoj. Khonsari said that Libyan President Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had strongly condemned massacre of hajj pilgrims in Mecca by the Saudi regime on July 31.

In response, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed on expansion of Tehran-Tripoli relations and lauded Col. al-Qadhdhafi's stance on the Mecca carnage.

The condemnation of Mecca slaughter was what the Islamic Republic expected from an Islamic leader and revolutionary figure such as Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, said the speaker.

Imams, Committees Pledge To Observe 11 Sep March

NC070644 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Following the call by Mr Karrubi, the Imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims, for the people to participate in a massive nationwide march to commemorate the martyrs on the 40th day since the bloody catastrophe in holy Mecca, Ayatollah Khatami, the imam's deputy in Yazd, sent a telegram to the office of the imam of the nation in which he condemned the crime of the American Al Sa'ud regime. In his message, Ayatollah Khatami also affirmed that the dedicated and ubiquitous people of Yazd will actively participate in the march in order to keep this major issue alive, to make the Islamic world more aware of the dimensions of the horrific crime perpetrated at the hands of the tyrannical puppet rulers of Hijaz in the precincts of divine peace, and to pave the way for the liberation of the two holy mosques.

According to a Central News Unit report, the Friday imams of Shiraz and Rasht, Hojjat ol-Eslam Ha'eri and Hojjat ol-Eslam Ehsanbakhsh respectively, also sent telegrams to the office of the imam of the nation in which they stressed that the people and Friday imams of the Provinces of Fars and Gilan will participate extensively in the mammoth nationwide march to pay tribute to the martyrs of the bloody Friday catastrophe in Mecca on the occasion of the 40th day ceremonies.

The commanders of the Islamic Revolutionary Committees [IRC] and the imam's representatives in this organization also conveyed messages to the office of the imam of the nation in which they condemned the atrocity committed by the Saudi agents in the bloody Mecca incident. They stated: The personnel of the IRC's will actively participate in the march for the Mecca martyrs on the 40th day ceremonies on Friday, 20 shahrivar [11 September], which is being held in response to the call by the imam's representative and supervisor of Iranian pilgrims.

Palestinians, Lebanese Asked To Face 'Real Enemy'

LD061206 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Following repeated attacks against residential areas of Sidon, which led to the martyrdom of dozens of innocent south Lebanese people, the minister for foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement condemning the crimes. The statement declares: The United States and its subservient reactionary stooges, trying to conceal the crimes of that regime [as heard] and its blatant enmity toward Islam and Muslims, as well as the innocent nations of the region, have prepared the grounds for a conciliatory approach to the Zionist regime and for a surrender to the hegemonist demands of that regime.

Therefore, we ask all Palestinian and Lebanese groups and factions to heed the lessons of spilt blood and the painful experience of massacres and turn all their weapons on the real enemy. They must deny themselves respite until the enemy has been eradicated and the Islamic lands, the sacred lands of Lebanon and Palestine, have been liberated. Involvement in ad hoc clashes and sedition can only strengthen the Zionist forces.

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD061452 Tehran IRNA in English 1437 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Ministry today strongly condemned the Zionist regime for its bombing of Sidon, south Lebanon Saturday and called on all Lebanese and Palestinian groups to point their arms at the Zionist enemy instead of wasting their energies in internecine clashes.

In a statement released here today, the Foreign Ministry said the regime occupying holy Qods [Jerusalem] by launching savage air raids on residential areas of Sidon and killing or wounding a group of innocent people displayed its deep enmity towards the oppressed people of south Lebanon.

The repeated crimes committed by the Zionists reveal the depth of conspiracies hatched by the U.S. and its reactionary puppet regimes in the region in a bid to pave the way for a compromise with the regime occupying Qods by surrendering to its expansionist policies and whitewashing its crimes despite its clear hostility against Islam, the statement said.

It was for these reasons, the statement said, that the U.S. clients (Saudis) ruling Hijaz [Saudi Arabia] gunned down peaceful demonstrating pilgrims who were chanting 'Death to the U.S.' and 'Death to the Zionist Regime' in Mecca on July 31.

The statement also expressed regret that at a time when such savage crimes are being committed against both the oppressed Lebanese and Palestinian people, the bombed areas are the scene of painful clashes and discord among those who are victims of the Zionist air raids themselves.

Denouncing the Zionist regime for its inhuman crime, the statement urged all Lebanese and Palestinian groups to learn a lesson from such agonizing and regrettable scenes and to turn their arms at their common enemy rather than involve themselves in futile clashes which would only serve to strengthen the Zionists.

Judiciary Council Says No Political Prisoners
LD061025 Tehran IRNA in English 0942 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Sept. 6, IRNA — Spokesman of the Supreme Judicial Council Hojjat ol-Eslam Morteza Moqtada'i said here Saturday night that there are no political prisoners in Iran in the accepted sense of the word.

He said those Iranians who are described by imperialist propaganda and their agents as political prisoners are armed insurrectors against the Islamic system of government charged with terrorist activities.

He said that the spirit of good will is lacking in the Amnesty International and similar human rights organizations, but added that as soon as those organizations should happen to demonstrate their good will, Iran would willingly cooperate with them.

Foreign Minister Comments on Geneva Proximity Talks

BK050354 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that Pakistan welcomes the resumption of proximity talks on Afghanistan and will participate in a positive spirit with an open mind and conscious of the need for an early settlement. He was talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport before his departure for Geneva early this morning.

The foreign minister said Pakistan made it clear at the last round of talks that it would be ready for an early resumption of negotiations. He added that since there is no military solution to this problem, negotiations must continue to achieve a settlement. Pakistan has been sincere in negotiating a settlement of this issue and looks forward to its early finalization.

On the Afghanistan problem, he said that for about 8 years it has disrupted peace and stability in this region and remains a major obstacle in international endeavors to build confidence and improve the political climate. The foreign minister said an early settlement of this problem — which would bring about a quick withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and restoration of an independent and nonaligned status to Afghanistan, enabling its people to choose their own government — would contribute to strengthening a world order based on respect for principles.

The foreign minister said Pakistan has always approached these negoatiations with a constructive spirit and desire to arrive at a just settlement leading to conditions in which the Afghan refugees can return to their homes. The Afghan refugees want only to go back when the Soviet troops are withdrawn. That is why the situation demands that both interlocutors approach the negotiations in a spirit in which no efforts are spared to find a settlement.

Answering a question, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan has insisted on finalizing all aspects of a settlement and now the time frame [for withdrawal of the Soviet troops] is the main issue. Pakistan has agreed to an interim government in Afghanistan that is neutral and acceptable to the Afghan refugees. He said setting up such a government would facilitate implementation of the agreement and prevent further bloodshed. He added that Pakistan would welcome a settlement on a time frame and formation of an interim neutral government in Afghanistan.

Senior officials including the minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, are accompanying the foreign minister.

Opposition Leader Assails Government Over DRA

BK051630 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] A Pakistani opposition leader, Air Marshal Asghar Khan, said that he is convinced about the sincerity of the Kabul government in seeking a solution to the Afghan problem. Air Marshal Khan, who is the chairman of the Tehrik-e Istiqlal Party and former chief of Pakistan Air Force, was addressing a news conference in Islamabad today. He said Pakistan is acting against its own interest as well as of Afghanistan by following American dictates to prolong the war. About his recent visit in Afghanistan, Mr Asghar Khan said the law and order situation appeared normal in places that he visited.

IRNA: Shi'ite Leader Condemns U.S. 'Adventurism'

LD061855 Tehran IRNA in English 1737 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Islamabad, Sept. 6, IRNA — Leader of the Shi'ite Muslims in Pakistan Mowlana Aref-Hussein al-Husseini [name as received] categorically condemned military adventurism of the U.S. and its allies in the Persian Gulf which has turned the calm regional situation into an arena of tension and terror.

In a strongly-worded statement issued here Saturday the Pakistani alim expressed regret over recent remarks of the Pakistani President Ziaul Haq on Persian Gulf developments.

Ziaul Haq has hurt the feelings of the Muslim world by calling the U.S., "as a supporter of peace", said Al-Husseini, noting that actually the U.S. has come to the region from the other side of the globe to disturb a Muslim country.

He also blamed Arab support for U.S. provocations. While the illegitimate Zionist regime and the expansionist U.S. are dealing heavy blows on Muslims, the Arabs treacherously gather in Morocco and Tunisia, legitimizing the Zionist regime and hatching plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran, he added.

We will not allow certain corrupt heads of Muslim states to materialise Washington's goals and we are ready to firmly defend Islam and the Quran, said the alim.

Al-Husseini warned that if the U.S. and its allies do not abandon their terrorist moves in the Persian Gulf against the Muslims' interests, "we will imperial the so-called interests of the great satan (U.S.) throughout the world and particularly in Pakistan."

Said Al-Husseini when Muslim people cannot be safe from U.S. bullying even in their own countries, how come U.S. agents should remain safe in Muslim countries.

Pakistani President Ziaul Haq is on record as saying in a recent interview that "U.S. seeks security and free navigation in the Persian Gulf." He also said that terrorism is not only planting bombs in Pakistan's street but disturbing navigation safety.

Finance Minister Leaves for India Economic Talks

BK051112 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] The minister of finance and planning, Ronnie de Mel, left for India yesterday. He is leading an eight-member delegation for the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Economic Commission talk which opens in New Delhi on Monday, the 7th of September. The talks are expected to focus on the reconstruction, rehabilitation, and reconciliation program. Joint investment, trade, and industrial corporations are also expected to figure prominently in the talks.

The Indian delegation to the talks will be led by finance and commerce minister, Narain Dutt Tiwari. Mr de Mel will also call on the Indian president, R. Venkataraman, and the prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.

Stresses Indian Friendship

BK051255 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] The Sri Lankan finance minister, Mr Ronnie de Mel, said friendship with India should be the cornerstone of Colombo's foreign policy. In an interview with our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, he said that the peace agreement will help strengthen Sri Lanka's friendship with India. He was sure that the agreement will be implemented in letter and in spirit. Mr de Mel said that the progress of implementation of the agreement so far is extremely satisfactory.

Speaking about the forthcoming Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission meeting, the Sri Lankan finance minister said that there is large scope for expanding economic cooperation between the two countries. He hoped that India will assist Sri Lanka in its reconstruction work.

LTTE Says Indian Troops Aiding Rival Attacks

BK061656 Hong Kong AFP in English 1649 GMT 6 Sep 87

[Text] Madras, India, Sept 6 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil militant group Sunday accused Indian peace-keeping troops of "aiding and abetting" attacks on its cadres by rival Tamil groups. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said the troops, stationed in Sri Lanka under an agreement aimed at ending the island's Tamil separatist conflict, were allowing members of some rival militant groups to carry arms.

Tamil guerrillas have handed over a substantial amount of arms under the Indo-Sri Lankan peace pact signed July 29, officials in Colombo have said.

Three unarmed LTTE cadres were killed by the rival People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT) in the northern district of Vavuniya on Friday, LTTE spokesman Dillip Yogi said in this southern Indian city.

When the LTTE complained, Indian troops denied the incident had taken place, even though the government agent in Vavuniya had confirmed it, he said.

The fact that PLOT men were allowed to move without "hindrance" from Indian peacekeeping troops showed the soldiers were "aiding and abetting" the attacks on the LTTE, said Mr. Yogi, leader of the LTTE's political wing.

K.C. Logeswaran, government agent of Vavuniya, told *Agence France-Presse* by telephone that armed cadres of rival Tamil group were moving about freely in the area, despite the presence of Indian troops.

A spokesman for the more than 6,000-strong Indian peacekeeping force said by telephone it had been ordered by New Delhi "not to create bad blood" by forcing the militants to put down arms.

"Our methods of persuasion have been paying and already over 80 percent of the arsenal has been laid down. We are progressing slowly towards the goal of total surrender of arms," the Indian spokesman added.

Demonstrates at Indian Camps

BK071420 Hong Kong AFP in English 1412 GMT 7 Sep 87

[Text] Colombo, Sept 7 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil militant group held demonstrations Monday outside a dozen Indian military camps in northern Jaffna peninsula, government officials in neighbouring Vavuniya District said.

The protests by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) came as their suspected rivals killed an LTTE member Monday morning, raising to eight the number of LTTE fighters gunned down following weekend clashes.

On Sunday, the LTTE issued a statement in Madras, in southern India, accusing Indian peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka of "aiding and abetting" attacks on its members by rival Tamil guerrilla groups.

Indian soldiers have been deployed in Tamil-dominanted northern Sri Lanka under a July 29 pact between Colombo and New Delhi aimed at ending four years of communal fighting in the island nation.

Residents in Vavuniya said 15,000 LTTE sympathisers joined Monday's protests, carrying placards that asked the Indian troops: "Are you here to protect or kill us?"

Officials said the LTTE had halted road transport to Jaffna. Guerrillas had also forced shops to close, and train service to Jaffna from Colombo was terminated at Kilinochchi, 45 mines (75 kilometers) south of its destination point.

Earlier Monday, residents and officials said at lest eight LTTE fighters had been killed in weekend clashes with rival groups in Vavuniya and Mannar Districts.

A spokesman for the Vavuniya citizens committee said by telephone that LTTE supporters had been constantly intimidated by armed men belonging to rival groups. He added that many people had fled the areas fearing attacks.

"Militants from all groups are carrying arms and only the innocent people get hit because they have no way of defending themselves," the spokesman said.

10 Killed in Clashes

BK080853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0837 GMT 8 Sep 87

[Text] In northern Sri Lanka at least 10 persons have been killed in clashes between two rival militant groups, LTTE and PLOTE [People's Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam], since Saturday. Train and bus services to the north have been disrupted. The government agent of Mannar yesterday reviewed the situation at a meeting with the peacekeeping force, the citizens committee and the police.

Police Seize Arms Cache in Colombo Raid

BK070953 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0936 GMT 7 Sep 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 07 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The police at Wellawatte, Colombo 06, have detained two suspects and seized a cache of arms during a raid on a cell of the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna, currently engaged in a campaign of subversion against the state.

Officer in charge of the Wellawatte police station, Inspector Lalith Lekamge who led the raid on the house at Pamankade, told *Lanka Puwath* the two suspects detained under the emergency regulations were Mohamed Ramzoon (25) a driver and Ajanth A Susantha alias Kelum (19) who was unemployed.

Police are looking for a third suspect.

Among the arms seized were a rifle, sub-machine gun, grenades and ammunition.

JVP Murder Plan Uncovered

BK071353 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1251 GMT 7 Sep 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 07 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Police investigating the Saturday night murder of Mahinda Pathirana, a former member of the Colombo District Development Council, at Wellampitiya, a suburb of the city of Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* today that they had bared a plan by the proscribed Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) now engaged in a campaign of subversion against the state, to murder 11 persons.

Police said two suspects were arrested this morning in a house where a JVP cell operated.

A squad of policemen led by Assistant Superintendent of Police Ignatius Perera raided the JVP cell at Wellampitiya and while arresting the two suspects, seized 19 hand bombs, a hit list containing the 11 names of the persons targetted to be murdered, 11 maps giving the exact locations of the intended victims' houses and a stock of subversive JVP literature.

Police told *Lanka Puwath* that the two suspects who were from Hakmana and Gandara in southern Sri Lanka along with two others had recently rented the house at Wellampitiya.

A search is on for the other two suspects.

EPRLF Military Wing Surrenders Arms, Disbands

BK051130 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Sep 87

[Text] The military wing of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, EPRLF, known as the People's Liberation Army, has been disbanded following the surrender of the last batch of their arms by the Front to the Sri Lanka authorities on 2 September at Mannar.

A *Press Trust of India* report from Madras quoted by *Lanka Puwath* states that the spokesman of the Front, Kitheswaran, has said yesterday that substantive quantities of light machineguns, automatic rifles, mortars, shells and explosives were surrendered in Mannar under the direct supervision of the Front secretary general, K. Padmanabhan. He also said that some arms were also surrendered at Tricomalee on 1 September.

Kitheswaran added [word indistinct] of the organization's military wing should now be mobilized for rehabilitation of the Tamils whose families were displaced during the ethnic riots.

LTTE Given Greater Representation Over TULF in IAC

BK051518 Colombo SUN in English 27 Aug 87 p 1

[Excerpt] The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) has been given greater representation over the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) in the proposed Interim Advisory Councils [IAC] for the North and East.

The LTTE will be entitled to two seats in each Council while the TULF will be entitled to only one nominee each. The EROS will also have a nominee each. Besides these, each IAC will have two Sinhalese and two Muslim members nominated by the President. [passage omitted]